

OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE

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60P WHERE SOLD

FRESH HOPE FOR SMITHFIELD SITE

Report by Sue Austin

FRESH hope that a multi-million pound leisure and retail site in Oswestry will soon be developed has emerged from behind-the-scenes talks between partners in the project.

The 16-acre Smithfield site on Shrewsbury Road, once part of the town's livestock market, has been earmarked for a CineWorld cinema, a Morrisons supermarket and restaurants for the past five years.

But the £45 million scheme, which promised hundreds of jobs, stalled in the economic downturn. Although a new state-of-the-art livestock market is now open on part of the site, the rest of the land has been cleared but has been left unused.

The ambitious scheme stalled after Morrisons announced last year there were "uncertainties" with cinema operator Cineworld and the granting of planning permission for a new Aldi on a nearby plot meant the supermarket chain wanted to take some time to review its plans.

Pledged

In a fresh move, Oswestry Town Council, which owns the land, this week pledged that work would start immediately on a re-valuation to move the project forward.

Following a private session of the council on Monday evening, Town Clerk David Preston said: "As we look ahead to the new financial year the priority, shared by the town council, Oswestry Livestock Auctions and Morrisons as the partners, is to bring the site forward for development at the earliest opportunity.

Agreement has now been reached on the process for re-valuation of the site and that work will progress immediately with the request for an early report to the council."

He stressed that the council would retain all the money it had received as part of the original scheme - £3 million.

"The council will continue to own the freehold of the site," Mr Preston said.

A new partnership agreement will be drawn up, subject to planning, and in his annual budget report to councillors Mr Preston said that discussions with Morrisons remained positive.

A condition of the original planning application was that the cinema and other infrastructure must be completed before the supermarket could open. Since planning permission was given to the Smithfield scheme, two other supermarket projects have been given the go-ahead by planners. The new Aldi store on Shrewsbury Road is now open and has created 30 jobs and fellow discount retailer Lidl has been given permission to open a store in Victoria Road.

Meanwhile, in a separate development, planning permission has been granted for a Countrywide store on the Oswestry Gateway business park, on the eastern edge of the town.

The Countrywide store, which will be built next to KFC, is expected to create 17 jobs.

Mother tells of terrifying road flooding ordeal



Sharon Davies, with children Tilly and Sebastian, whose car got stuck in floods in Weston Rhyn near Oswestry. Photo: Alan Evans.

A MOTHER has described the moment she and her young children found themselves stuck in a car as flood waters rose around them.

Sharon Davies, her 10-year-old daughter Tilly and eight-year-old son Sebastian, were in the family car just a few hundred metres from their home when the drama began.

She had to take the decision to leave the safety of the vehicle and risk being swept away in the torrent of water when it began pouring inside. And she praised emergency services who struggled through torrential rain and flooding to reach her.

Mrs Davies and the children had been visiting a friend on Tuesday evening last week when she got caught in the flood near her

home in Weston Rhyn, near Oswestry. She said: "We got just past the Last Inn crossroads and on to the lane when the car stalled.

"I rang my friend who has a 4x4 to see if she could tow us out but quickly the water began to rise. It was just pouring down the lane like a river and was bringing branches and other debris with it. Then the water began seeping through the foot well."

Mrs Davies said she was worried that if the three of them stepped out into the water they could be swept away.

She added: "I rang 999 and asked for help from the fire service. But they had trouble finding me and the longer we waited the higher the water was getting inside. I was then worried that it might reach a stage when

we couldn't open the door because of the force of the water and were trapped.

"I took the decision that we had to get out. But when we stepped out it was well over my knees and up to the children's waists. We just waded as best we could down the lane and then saw the fire engine.

"The firemen were brilliant. They got us into their vehicle and put blankets around us."

Paramedics checked the children to ensure they were not suffering from hypothermia and an ambulance was then able to slowly negotiate the water to take them home.

Mrs Davies said: "The emergency services, the neighbours and the insurance company have been fantastic."

EDUCATION

Parents delighted after village school's future is secured

CAMPAIGNING parents are celebrating after it was announced that a village school which was facing closure as part of a multi-million pound superschool project has been saved from the axe.

The future of Leighton CP School had been under threat since 2014 when Powys County Council announced it was reviewing primary schools in the Welshpool High School catchment area.

But this week parents have spoken of their joy that their children's school will continue as a stand alone community primary school. Holly Dyer, a parent and governor at Leighton School, which is two miles outside Welshpool, said the news was a "fantastic relief" and was thanks to the strong support from parents who made their voices heard. She said: "We haven't been sure but last week we had it definitively confirmed that Leighton was no longer under review, the outcome we were after all along. It's just fantastic, this is really good news and it's all thanks to the strong level of feeling from parents." Mrs Dyer said the news meant the school could now look to the future.

The news that Leighton will continue to stand alone comes ahead of a meeting on Tuesday where the council's cabinet will discuss plans for a new 420-pupil English language superschool and a 120-pupil Welsh language school for Welshpool.

● Shake-up - See Page 3

ENTERTAINMENT

Line-up for literary festival announced

THE programme for this year's Oswestry literary festival has been announced, with a wide range of writers, storytellers and performers lined up to come to the town.

Among the highlights will be a visit by former Blue Peter Star Janet Ellis who will be speaking about her debut novel.

This year's event will also be a change from previous years - this time taking place as a "long lit weekend" rather than taking place over a number of weeks.

The seventh Oswestry LitFest will take place from March 17 to 20.

● Packed - See Page 4

INSIDE

New luxury yurt business blooms



PAGE 18

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Plea is made for return of council's rate support grant

Report by Sue Austin

NEW Shropshire Council leader Malcolm Pate is being urged to return tens of thousands of pounds of grant to parish and town councils.

Oswestry Town Council lost £50,000 of council tax grant last year when the unitary authority decided to retain the funding the government gives it specifically to help the smaller councils.

Councillors are hoping that the new leader insists Shropshire goes back to the old traditional of handing the money straight over.

They are asking Owen Paterson to add his weight to the plea to Mr Pate.

At the budget meeting of Oswestry Town Council this week councillors were warned of financial challenges ahead.

Town Clerk David Preston said that in setting the 2016/2017 budget the council had to take into account the loss of the council tax support grant.

He said the budget also had to take into account the expected loss of about £40,000 from pay and display payments on the council's three town centre car parks.

Historically, much of the income which goes into the town council's coffers has come from Oswestry's markets and its car parks.

But the budget predicts that the income from Central car park in 2016/17 will be £455,025, down from the £485,284 expected to have come in by the end of March. Income from the Smithfield car park is expected to be £85,000, down £5,000, and the Horsemarket £80,000, also down £5,000. This stems from the opening of a second Aldi in Oswestry and planning permission granted for a Lidl which it is feared will keep shoppers out of the town centre.

The town council voted for a nil increase in its precept, with Band D taxpayers seeing £69.92 added to their bills.

Major spending by the town council in the coming 12 months will include £120,000 to upgrade the remaining 350 footway lights in Oswestry to LED bulbs.

There are already 100 of the new lights in place.

Priority will also be given to new building public toilets on Central car park in the town. Another £20,000 will go towards improvements to Oswestry cemetery and there will be a £40,000 increase in the budget for Christmas lighting.

Traditional plough service held at church



Mark Jones, Harry Thomas, the Rev Sarah Burton, Josh Yaxley, Patrick Gilman, Andy Roberts, Edward Sounds and Sam Roscoe attend the blessing of the plough at Whittington

A TRADITIONAL plough took pride of place at a farming church service.

The service at St John the Baptist Church at Whittington near Oswestry has medieval origins when decorated ploughs were brought into the church to be blessed.

Plough Sunday is the traditional start to the agricultural year and ploughs would be taken into the parish church in villages across England to be blessed.

The celebrations usually involve bringing

a plough into a church with prayers for the blessing of the land.

Although the nature of farming has changed over the centuries, Plough Sunday is seen as a way of generally celebrating farming and the work of farmers.

The congregation at the church in Whittington was invited to witness an antique plough being presented to the rector, Rev. Sarah Burton.

She blessed the plough and the work of

those connected with farming in the parish.

There was then a sermon by Bishop of Shrewsbury, The Right Reverend Mark Ryland, along with readings by members of the farming community.

After the service there was a supper celebrating local farm produce at Oswestry Rugby Club.

More than 100 people attended the supper and more than £800 was raised to support the work of the church."

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Warning on MP boundary alterations

PLANS to redraw constituency boundaries would see the "devastation" of the political landscape, a Mid Wales politician has warned.

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies said he is "not one bit happy" about the government's plans to reduce the number of MPs in Parliament from 650 to 600 but conceded it was difficult to argue against the proposals.

Mr Davies said the changes will bring a "total devastation" of Welsh politics.

He said: "In two years' time, many of our old historical constituencies are scheduled to disappear.

"The changes in Wales will be more radical than anywhere else.

"I'm not one bit happy about this, but it's difficult to argue against it."

"There has been a history of over-representation in Westminster from Wales.

"And much governing responsibility has been devolved to the Welsh Assembly."

"While the reduction in MPs in total is to be about 10 per cent, the reduction of Welsh MPs is likely to be over 25 per cent - from 40 to 29."

"And the Boundary Commission for Wales does not have nearer the same level of flexibility to create natural constituencies."

The MP warned: "There will total devastation of our parliamentary constituencies map."

Hospital appoints chief executive

A NEW chief executive has been appointed at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

Mark Brandreth, who is currently deputy chief executive and director of operations and planning at the Countess of Chester Hospital, will take up his role at the Gobowen-based hospital in the spring.

He replaces Wendy Farrant-Chadd who left the post last year due to personal reasons.

Mr Brandreth's arrival will see him succeed John Grinnell, who has been acting chief executive since the start of October.

Mr Grinnell will resume his duties as director of finance.

Bosses at the hospital are currently awaiting the outcome of a report by the government's health watchdog Monitor because some patients are waiting too long for operations.

Report by Naomi Penrose

REPLACING four primary schools in Welshpool with a brand new multi-million pound superschool will provide a "long-overdue" transformation for the education of future generations, governors say.

School governors in Welshpool have spoken positively ahead of a meeting of Powys County Council's cabinet on Tuesday where members will be recommended to support plans for a 420-pupil English language school to be built near Welshpool High School.

A new 120-pupil Welsh language school would open on the site of Ysgol Maesydre under the plans.

If the project, estimated to cost around £12.75m, is approved later governors say it will stand the town and its future generations in good stead. Phil Pritchard, who is county councillor for Welshpool and a governor at Ysgol Maesydre, said the plans will improve education in the Welshpool area.

He said: "This is long, long overdue for Welshpool, as we've seen towns around us being improved over the years but Welshpool has been stagnant."

These schools will make a huge difference for our pupils and stand Welshpool in good stead for the future."

Councillor Pritchard said the fabric of the building at Ysgol Maesydre was "not good".

"If pupils have a nice, tidy, good standard school building, that better setting will make all the difference for them and their studies," Councillor Pritchard said.

Derek Simms, chairman of governors at Ardwr School and also a governor at Oldford School, said the new schools are a "great opportunity" for the town.

He said: "I think this is a very welcome initiative and I think it will be a great opportunity for not just the pupils but also parents and staff. I personally think given the size of the individual schools that putting them together into an English and also a Welsh medium makes sense and will be extremely positive for all involved."

"This has been a long process where meetings have taken place behind the scenes but that's given people a chance to raise any ideas and bring their ideas to the table, which is why we're at the point where we're at now."

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Shake-up of schools is overdue, say governors

Mums have a chat over a coffee



Liz Grayston with Freddie, Katie Millard, Loz Gaskin with Casey and Nathan Stone and Sally Jones have a chat

NEW and expectant mums spoke of

the importance of sharing information and getting advice when they met at a new coffee morning.

The event was organised by the National Childbirth Trust, which holds get-togethers across Shropshire and Mid Wales.

A dozen new mums - and those still waiting - met for a natter at Oswestry's Baby Bird Cafe.

Liz Grayston, NCT Shrewsbury branch treasurer, said: "The Coffee Meet is an opportunity to get together with other new parents and parents-to-be, have a chat, get to

know each other and share some of the trials, tribulations and fantastic moments that you're experiencing.

It gives you so much reassurance to hear that you are not the only person whose baby never seems to sleep or to hear that things really do get easier.

"It doesn't cost anything except what you decide to indulge in from the cafe."

The drop in is being hosted by Baby Bird Cafe, which is a family-friendly cafe in the centre of Oswestry run by Katie Millard.

Mrs Millard said: "I feel like

there's such a need in Oswestry and being a mum myself I know the support in the early days is very important from a social aspect.

"It seemed like the right thing to do to offer the cafe as a base."

NCT supports parents during the first 1,000 days of their babies lives - from conception to age two.

NCT holds antenatal classes and baby first aid classes, offers breastfeeding support, runs baby groups and baby walks, and holds nearly new sales every year to help new parents stock up with all the essentials cheaply.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lorries collision leads to closure

THE main road between Shrewsbury and Welshpool was blocked for almost five hours after two lorries were involved in a collision.

The A458 was closed between Welshpool and Middletown after the crash, which happened at about 4.40am on Tuesday near Trewern.

Dyfed-Powys Police spokeswoman Katy Simmons said: "Police attended a road traffic collision involving two lorries. There were no injuries."

"The road was blocked and diversions were put in place. Both lorries required recovery."

"The council attended to clean and clear the road, and the road re-opened at 9.20am."

Diversions were put in place during the road closure, sending the rush hour traffic on the A483 via Oswestry and the A5 via Shrewsbury.

Kidnap accused to enter pleas

FOUR people charged with kidnap and blackmail will be formally asked to enter their pleas next month.

It is alleged that a man was taken from his vehicle and driven off in the Four Crosses/ Llanymynech area in Powys on September 2. A plea hearing at Mold Crown Court was adjourned by Judge Niclas Parry on Monday.

A plea hearing will be held next month.

David Staff, 34, of Leaside Road, Blacon, Chester; Andrew Ballatyne, 36, of Rough Hill, Marlston cum lache in Chester and Nathan Parry, 37, of Jack's Wood, Ellesmere Port, were further remanded in custody. Natalie Goode, 33, of Clivedon Road in Chester, was bailed.

Pub quiz will raise cash for charity

A PUB quiz in aid of Guide Dogs will be held tomorrow (Friday).

Entry to the event at the Cross Guns Inn in Pant, near Oswestry, is £5 for a team of four or £1.50 per person.

The winning team will earn £20 and a free drink.

All are welcome to the quiz, which will start at 9pm.

For more information about the fundraising evening call the Cross Guns Inn on (01691) 839631.

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Packed schedule unveiled for town's literary festival

Report by Naomi Penrose

THE programme for this year's Oswestry literary festival has been announced.

The seventh annual Oswestry LitFest will take place from March 17 to 20 with writers, storytellers and performers appearing in venues across the town.

Highlights of the line-up include ex-Blue Peter star turned novelist Janet Ellis who will give a question and answer session on the closing night of the festival on her debut novel *The Butchers Book*. The festival will also shift into dramatic gear with a new musical theatre work on the life story of English poet and novelist Philip Larkin called *Larkin' About* featuring *Archer's* stars Sunny Ormonde and John Teller.

This year's event will also see the return of the Wilfred Owen lecture for the second time looking to hit a national audience with its poignant theme of Conflict and Communication in the 21st Century, written and presented by acclaimed poet, writer, playwright and broadcaster, Owen Sheers.

While on the Saturday night, leading authors Nina Stibbe, Damian Barr and Sathnam Sanghera will come together for *On The Record* to reveal the writing secrets behind putting your life on the page, and getting it published.

This year's event will also be a change from previous years – this time taking place as a "long lit weekend" rather than taking place over a number of weeks.

This year's event will also offer plenty for young people with the Saturday being a *Kid's Lit Day* featuring a Winnie the Pooh Story Picnic and a *Shine A Light Story Session*.

For more information, visit www.oswestrylitfest.co.uk or call into the festival's box office at Booka Bookshop or telephone (01691) 662244.

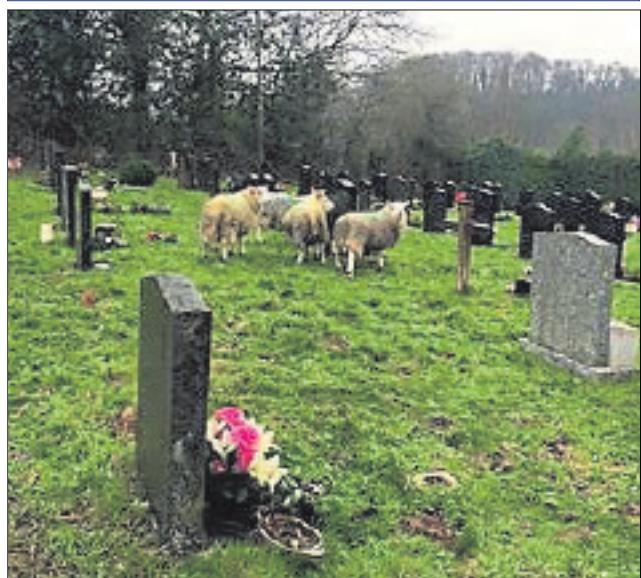
The festival is being championed by supporters such as The Shropshire Star and the Oswestry and Border Chronicle, Oswestry School, Morris Cook Chartered Accountants, Lanyon Bowdler and Moreton Hall School.

Comedienne and writer Ruby Wax was due to announce the festival line-up when she visited the Dining Rooms in Oswestry on Thursday last week but the event had to be postponed.

Mr Waine said: "Sadly, due to unforeseen circumstances, we have postponed the Ruby Wax/Frazzled talk and are looking forward to a new re-arranged date.

"We are grateful to all our ticket holders, Ruby's fans, LitFest sponsors and staff at The Dining Rooms for their understanding. Once we have a new date, we shall be contacting all our ticket-holders to see whether they can come along, or would prefer a full refund."

Sheep trample over graves



The sheep in the graveyard on Sunday. Picture courtesy of Emma Kaye.

LOOSE sheep have been trampling over graves at Maesgwastad Cemetery in Welshpool.

People who have family buried at the cemetery, owned by Powys County Council, were shocked to discover roaming sheep from a nearby field had eaten flowers from graves and trampled over where their loved ones are laid to rest.

It is thought that the gate to a nearby field was broken, allowing the sheep to make their way into the cemetery.

Emma Kaye, from the Borfa Green area of Welshpool, said she and her family were "extremely upset" to discover flowers from her great-grandmother's grave had been eaten by sheep.

Heather Chave, a Welshpool town councillor, who regularly visits her father's grave at the cemetery, said she was angry that the problem had not been resolved as vases and ornaments on his grave had been smashed before Christmas.

She said: "My dad only died last year, he was really poorly and he still isn't at peace now with sheep running riot over his grave."

A Powys County Council spokesman said: "We have received complaints about sheep in the cemetery and contacted the owner of the animals to get them moved."

According to the spokesman, the land is part of Powis estate and rented to a local farmer.

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Battle to keep town's last bank open set to continue

Report by Wayne Beese

POLITICIANS from a variety of political persuasions say they will do all they can to ensure they get the best possible deal for bank customers in Chirk following the shock announcement by HSBC that it is to close its branch in the town.

The HSBC was Chirk's last remaining bank and the closure has been criticised by community leaders.

A bid to convince the bank to reverse its decision will be "a challenge", according to one campaigner. Simon Baynes said there was a "positive" mood among people in Chirk who want to keep their bank.

Rider lost control of his vehicle

A TEENAGE moped rider was killed in a crash on the A483 between Oswestry and Welshpool after losing control, an inquest was told.

Kalun Longman had been riding his Aprilia RS50 moped when he was involved in a crash with a transit van on the A483 at Llanymynech bridge on October 6.

The 16-year-old was on his way to college in Wrexham when the collision happened. The inquest at Welshpool Magistrates Court was told that Kalun, of Newtown, lost control of his moped, which ended up on its side on the carriageway and slid, but it was uncertain how he lost control.

Pc Ian Pathak, Dyfed-Powys collision investigation officer, confirmed the teenager's moped was relatively new but the exhaust had been modified so it could travel at an increased speed. He said: "I can't say how or why Kalun lost control of the moped."

Mr Pathak said there were a combination of matters that could have contributed to the teenager losing control including his riding capability and experience.

It was also uncertain at what speed Kalun was travelling at but Mark Colin Williams, who was driving the van that collided with the moped, said he did not appear to have been speeding.

Andrew Barkley, senior coroner for Powys, described the teenager's death as a "terrible, terrible tragedy". He recorded that the teenager died from multiple injuries due to a road traffic collision.



Chirk residents at a public meeting about the plans to close the town's last bank

Talks held over coverage

MOBILE phone providers have agreed to look into ways of improving coverage across Shropshire following a meeting with county politicians.

Shropshire's MPs held a meeting with members of Shropshire Council, Connecting Shropshire, and representatives from mobile phone providers, BT and Ofcom on Friday in Shrewsbury.

Shropshire Council's deputy leader Steve Charmley hosted the meeting to highlight the need to improve mobile phone signal coverage in the county.

He said: "The meeting was very focussed on finding ways to improve the situation for those who visit, live and work in Shropshire.

"We also call on HSBC to reveal statistical details about the number of transactions carried out locally".

forcefully made the case for improved mobile coverage in the county, as many tourism and small businesses are struggling to survive with poor mobile connectivity.

"There was a common agreement amongst those in the audience that things are going from bad to worse, and we need to work with the industry and the regulator to address the issues that are hampering improvements as quickly and efficiently as possible.

"Shropshire Council will continue to act as a conduit between all parties to make sure this happens." North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson, who has long been campaigning for an improvement to coverage in the county, said it had been a positive meeting with some progress made.

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

It's not a subject we normally like to talk about but organ donation has become a hot topic in England where it has emerged that bereaved families vetoed the donation of organs from 547 registered donors in the last five years. National Health Service Blood & Transplant (NHSBT) estimates the blocked donors would have provided organs for 1,200 of the 6,578 patients on the waiting list for a transplant.

It's a delicate and heart-breaking process discussing organ donation with recently bereaved relatives and staggering to think that 547 families went against the wishes of their loved ones and blocked doctors from removing organs.

Now the NHSBT is getting tough, but surely not tough enough, when it says it would no longer seek a family's formal consent in order to reduce the number of "overrides". Now bereaved will be given a leaflet which explains consent remains with the deceased, and they can only block donations by providing reasons in writing.

The new move serves as little more than a sticking plaster on a much larger issue and fails to address the real issue that if a family member has registered as a donor their wishes should be respected.

Perhaps it's time the NHSBT took a look across the border to see how Organ Donation Wales has dealt with the issue and taken the opportunity away from grieving families to veto the donation of organs. In Wales everyone now has the opportunity to opt out. If you haven't done so your organs will be available for transplant regardless of what relatives might say.

It's a simple system and one that should be adopted in England too.

By registering your choice to be a donor, you can choose to donate all or only certain organs.

If you haven't recorded an organ donation decision on the NHS Organ Donation Register, you will be treated as having no objection to donating any of your organs in a system called "deemed consent".

What is it about people on the streets of Welshpool who think they have the right of way over motorists? Even if it means putting their own lives in danger.

Monday is always busier than other days and is easily the best day in the week to spot this special breed of people, who assume it's OK to stroll aimlessly out in front of fast-moving traffic without a care in the world.

It's a strange phenomenon and one I have not experienced in any other town and no amount of tweaking of the town's controversial one-way system will stop this unique Welshpool practice of traffic dodging and putting lives in danger it seems.



Powis Castle with its amazing gardens is a well-known Mid Wales landmark



The Llanrhaeadr waterfall has helped make Wales a must-visit destination for travellers



Chirk Castle is jam-packed with history and a popular destination for many visitors to Wales

WORKING FOR YOU



I strongly believe that nothing would have a more spectacular effect on the local economy than improving rural communications.

I am working closely with the industry, Government and Shropshire Council's Connecting Shropshire, to improve the acutely worsening service that we endure on a daily basis. When I put out a call for people to contact me with their stories about poor mobile and telephone reception, I was inundated with desperate messages detailing a complete absence of coverage in many places right across North Shropshire. We are placed at an enormous competitive disadvantage by this lack of efficient mobile telephone coverage. As many of you will have experienced yourselves, it is impossible to maintain a signal between the five market towns on any network.

Tackling this is vital to the majority of local people who rely on mobile telephones and the internet to carry out many everyday tasks which others elsewhere are able to take for granted.

Residents travelling between towns should not have to put up with being cut off and the safety of my constituents should not be compromised by the inability to call for the police, fire service or an ambulance in an emergency.

I am pleased, therefore, that Shropshire Council organised a meeting at the Shirehall last week with councillors and MPs, hosted by Connecting Shropshire and chaired by Cllr Steve Charmley, which included a coverage update by OFCOM, a progress report from the mobile operators including CTIL (Vodafone and O2) Three and EE (incorporating Orange and T-Mobile) plus a briefing on BT's backhaul provision.

The tiny village of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant, not far from Oswestry, is well off the beaten track but also attracts visitors in their droves each year. The village is the home to Pistyll Rhaeadr, one of the Seven Wonders of Wales.

At 240ft Llanrhaeadr (Tan-y-Pistyll) Waterfall is among the highest in England or Wales, with footpaths leading to the top of the falls and a cafe at the bottom.

In Welshpool the medieval castle, fortress and grand country mansion of Powis Castle attracts thousands of visitors each year to explore its magnificent gardens.

With such amazing features, it is not surprising BBC Countryfile magazine has shortlisted a Welsh landmark for its best heritage site in Britain competition.

Pontcysylte Aqueduct has been put on the shortlist.

One fan of the aqueduct is businessman Peter Jones who has run the Jones the Boats company on the site for the past 25 years. He runs several different trips from a 45-minute return crossing of the aqueduct to a longer Sunday lunch trip on a special restaurant boat.

He said: "I never tire of the aqueduct, the area is beautiful and changes with every season. The aqueduct is such a spectacular structure and yet many people don't know it exists."

"They are really surprised when they meet here."

"The number of visitors has increased dramatically since it was named a world heritage site."

Historic Land of Song has plenty to shout out about

Travel experts say Wales is a place well worth a visit. PAM KINGSLEY looks at the reasons why

NEPAL, Colombia and Jordan have headed a top 10 countries to visit in 2016 list compiled by travel experts Rough Guides.

But number eight on the list is a little closer to home.

For Wales is in the top 10 places to visit this year, beating Kenya and Sri Lanka, and just behind El Salvador.

On its website Rough Guides, which produces travel guide books, says: "There's no better time to explore one of the finest natural playgrounds in Europe. Many still underestimate this small country, often overshadowed by its neighbours. But these are exciting times for Wales – the country is winning accolades for its extraordinary beauty and remarkably preserved historical sites. Culture, vultures, foodies, festival junkies, adventurers, hikers and extreme sports enthusiasts will be spellbound here, be it amid the rugged peaks of Snowdonia, on the sandy beaches of the Gower Peninsula or in the quaint rural towns and villages."

While the big towns of Cardiff and Swansea in south Wales attract weekenders, and the north Wales coastal resorts of Llandudno and Conwy have always proved popular with holiday makers, there is plenty to attract visitors in Mid Wales as well.

Val Hawkins, chief executive of Mid Wales Tourism, said she felt the area was sadly under-appreciated by many people.

"People go to the towns in the south or the coast in the north, and it's such a shame that people miss Mid Wales," she said. "The Mid Wales region is bordered by two national parks and the Cambrian mountains. It's a fantastic area



Howard Jones and Peter Jones run boat trips at Pontcysylte Aqueduct

and so close to the Midlands. From Telford over to the coast is only a couple of hours, and you can get a train from London in the same sort of time. There's a huge amount of things to see and do. We've got phenomenal walking and cycling, we've got the coastal path, and we've got amazing wildlife, like the ospreys at Machynlleth. In the Marches area we've got the lovely countryside and wonderful hotels.

The quality of the accommodation is fantastic with a lot of award-winning hotels and farm bed & breakfasts. There's a lot to offer and all so close."

Ms Hawkins said recognition by Rough Guides can only help make people more aware of what the region has to offer. "People need to understand that Wales has got a character of its own – it's not like anywhere else in the UK," she added.

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies, who has served as a member on the Wales Tourism Board, said recognition from the Rough Guides organisation was a welcome boost for the area.

"We have a natural environment and numerous tourism attractions in Montgomeryshire that act as a magnet for thousands of visitors each year," he said.

"Many of these tourists stay in local accommodation or spend money in local businesses during their visit, providing an important income for the local economy. It's important for us to promote the area and attract more visitors to help support what is an important sector for us."

Supporters say Mid Wales has plenty to shout about.

In fact, the 'Seven Wonders of Wales' – Snowdon, Llanberis, Wrex-

ham, Overton, Gresford, Llanrhaeadr and St Winefride's Well – the majority lie within half an hour of Shropshire's border.

They include the Pontcysylte World Heritage Site, which extends from Llangollen, with its Horseshoe Falls, the International Eisteddfod, heritage railway and nearby Pontcysylte Aqueduct, to the Shropshire border at Chirk, with the canal tunnel and impressive aqueduct spanning the England-Wales border.

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WOULD WE OWN THE HARDWARE, SOFTWARE AND SYSTEMS OF A BESPOKE IT PACKAGE?

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A: Just like any other business equipment, computer hardware is a tangible asset owned by the business, provided of course that you purchase it outright rather than leasing it. The hardware should come with a guarantee and if it is being maintained by your IT consultants they should give you a maintenance contract. Even though you may also receive your software in a tangible form, such as CD, it will be coded and that code will be covered by copyright law and be the intellectual property of the person or company who wrote it. So whilst you may purchase the software outright, you must also purchase a licence to use it in accordance with the terms and conditions applied by the owner of the copyright.

In the case of any bespoke software you commission you need to ensure that you have a contract specifying that you are the owner. If your ownership of it is not clearly laid out you will not be able to make any changes without the permission of the original software developer and it is likely that you will need to engage their services to make the changes. This could be a problem if in the future you decide you want to change to a different IT consultancy.

Before entering into any contracts it would be wise to seek legal advice from a solicitor.

This question has been answered by Rod Waters, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal.

For an appointment visit www.ghplegal.com or contact one of our offices: Oswestry 01691 659194, Chirk 01691 777949, Wrexham 01978 291456, Llangollen 01978 860313. For Personal Injury and Family matters we offer FREE legal diagnostic clinics every Wednesday at our Oswestry office and every Monday at our Wrexham office, 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal is authorised and regulated by the SRA 51566, and Lexcel Accredited.



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What are we doing to our countryside?

REGARDING a recent article on fox hunting, who are we calling "vermin"?

One of the dictionary definitions of this word is "the scum of society", and didn't Oscar Wilde Hogarth, in his painting of a hunt, call the hunt "The Unspeakable in Pursuit of the Uneatable"?

If more people are joining hunts, this is either a sad reflection on the morality of our society today, in that it is becoming more inured to cruelty, or it is simply a desire to be involved in the sheer physicality and excitement of a chase, which at present, has nothing to do with hunting an animal to death.

Though, as our local badger setts are regularly blocked prior to the Boxing Day hunt, one has to wonder about that one.

I absolutely cannot understand why shooting foxes is deemed "cruel", yet running a terrified animal to exhaustion and horrific death is not.

Are the people who make these statements completely incapable of empathy?

And, yet again, as with the issue over badgers, we make this massive assumption, that, as the dominant species, we have some sort of divine right to treat every other one in whatever way we please, regardless of how we make them suffer.

Foxes are not "vermin", any more than we, the greatest despilers of this beautiful planet, would wish to be called so.

We are, though, probably the most over-populated, pushing every other species to the edge of extinction, and that should really be the first thought, before we start bleating on about badgers in allotments and foxes in the countryside. They don't really have much choice, do they? No habitats left for the badger and no rabbits left for the fox.

We want it all ways.

N JONES
Shrewsbury

We need more democracy in the way we run our affairs

AS a member of the Ludlow Campaign For Fairness group, and in the light of Keith Barrow's resignation, I would like to remind readers that last year we held a full-house meeting informing people of the undemocratic nature of ip&e Ltd.

Particular concerns were expressed about lack of transparency due to "commercial sensitivities". There was an outcry resulting in a bus-load of 50 protesters from Ludlow and south Shropshire attending the full council meeting to hear a response to a question we had sent expressing these concerns.

Despite it being totally legal, we were refused permission to film the council's response and our cameras were confiscated under threat of removal from the chamber should we not hand them over. Opposition councillors tried to get this decision reversed without success. Recent revelations have vindicated our fears that the use of limited companies in Government is bad for democracy. For too long our county's wellbeing has been in the hands of a small elite group who have taken upon themselves far too much individual power. Cabinet members and portfolio holders being made directors of ip&e Ltd extended that even further. There is talk of re-modelling ip&e Ltd in some way but I am of the opinion that this wholly inappropriate and expensive business venture should be shut down entirely, and the council should return to a more democratic system of governance.

MARILYN GAUNT
Ludlow

Soul search for answers

THIS planet that we evolved on is five billion years old. It took one billion years to cool down to be able to accept and support life-supporting water.

Life started to evolve as it is only after another occurrence of the universe. Life could have started smaller than the atom and could only live in the water.

In the Bible it says that humans were made in the same shape as God. In the beginning there was no oxygen and life had to live in the water. There were no humans for another four billion years. What shape was God? Was he smaller than the atom?

I am 86 years old and when I die God will take my soul, if God exists or my soul exists.

At the present time there are many trillions of life forms on this planet. God made humans in his shape. Why choose us instead of fish, insects, mammals, crocodiles or even single cell life? Did God give them all souls? What shape did God make himself? It seems that there is no God and no soul.

Our existence and intelligence will all disappear when the sun ends and destroys the earth with fire. The trillion forms of life evolved to explore all of the different ways of supporting life.

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

High hopes for council leader

I KNOW nothing at all about the new Shropshire Council leader, in fact I have never heard his name mentioned, so therefore I will reserve my judgement on his capability to lead the council.

My hope is that he has his feet firmly on the ground and that he passes the load of common sense, which in my opinion, is the first requisite for the job.

Hopefully, he will connect with the people of Shropshire.

ANGELA BRIGHT
Chirk Bank

We are all getting stamped on by this EU invention

I HAD to take out a loan for my Christmas stamps - 30 second class stamps cost me £16.20, 54 pence each!

Remember the very first stamp? The penny - post by which Britain pioneered the universal postal system? Now we have the 54 penny post over 10 shillings or a half of one pound in old money - now it is privatised and the Germans and Dutch are bleeding us dry.

None is the Royal Mail six days per week deliveries - a first and second delivery six days per week and Sunday collections. Gone is the smart postman in uniform and peaked cap, he has been replaced by people who lack the wit to wear long trousers in winter.

The privatised postal system is, of course, just one more gormless, ill-conceived, off-the-cuff invention of the European Union which has cost us and Royal Mail 20,000 jobs and 10,000 sub post offices. The Battle of Hastings didn't cause us that much damage.

BOB WYDELL
Oswestry

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Big cycle raises cash for charities

A TEAM of four cyclists who undertook a gruelling bike ride from Land's End to John O'Groats have raised £4,200 for their chosen charities.

Andrew Finch, 50, from Oswestry, cycled the entire length of Britain alongside his brother-in-law Dave Roberts, friend Antony Evans and stepson Jamie Goffin. Mr Finch, a former member of Oswestry Cycling Club, said: "We were well prepared for their challenge and were overwhelmed with the generosity of everyone who donated. The training schedule we completed really paid off and helped us to complete the ride within the planned seven-day window we set ourselves."

"It was a really great experience and it helped that the weather was on our side, too." The group completed the 930-mile journey in seven days in September to raise funds for Hope House Children's Hospices, the Alzheimer's Society and the Multiple Sclerosis Trust. The money raised will be split equally between the charities.

Deputy Mayor to hold surgery

OSWESTRY'S Deputy Mayor Paul Milner will be holding his regular monthly surgery on Saturday.

The councillor represents Victoria Ward on Oswestry Town Council and Morda with Sweeney on Oswestry Rural Parish Council.

The surgery will be held at Oswestry Library between 11am and noon.

If requested all conversations can be held in confidence and in private surroundings.

For more details or to book an appointment Cllr Milner can be contacted direct by either phoning him on 07581223599 or emailing him at paulmilner4@gmail.com

Report by Pam Kingsley

A WOMAN suffering from a chronic disease which had confined her to a wheelchair says her life has been changed after travelling to Germany for treatment.

Toni Kirkham, from Pant, contracted Lyme disease five years ago after being bitten by a tick while working as a gardener.

The NHS will treat Lyme disease when it is diagnosed in the early stages, but usually with only a very short course of antibiotics.

But as Toni's disease went undiagnosed for 18 months, it became chronic and she was ineligible for NHS treatment.

However, her family - husband Pete, daughter Jess, 17, and son Ryan, 15 - managed to raise £20,000 for their mother to travel to a private clinic in Germany.

Toni, 44, said: "It was a very difficult time but the treatment I received from the German clinic was outstanding.

"While there I was on antibiotic intravenous treatment for eight weeks. I returned to the UK in November and slowly I'm making good progress, in that the treatment is keeping the infection under control and I have eliminated some symptoms.

"I can now walk short distances with the aid of a walking stick and my fatigue is more manageable, as long as I don't overdo things."

Having returned home Toni is continuing with her treatment plan under the guidance of the doctors at the BCA Clinic in Augsburg. She will then be returning for follow up appointments.

But she stressed that while the treatment has helped, it will not cure her condition.



Toni Kirkham from Pant undergoing treatment in Germany

Reunion set to recognise club history

FORMER players, managers, directors and supporters of a football team which merged to create a new club in 2003 are being invited to a reunion next month.

The get-together will be hosted by The New Saints FC at The Venue at Park Hall, Oswestry, for anyone with a connection to the old Oswestry Town FC. Following the merger of Oswestry Town and Llansantffraid in 2003, both clubs have continued to flourish as part of The New Saints Football Club. Club spokesman Gilbert Woolley said: "We are inviting any previous players, managers or staff who were part of Oswestry Town FC to join us for some match-day hospitality - including a lunch or dinner - surrounded by familiar faces and memorabilia, including programmes, newspapers and photographs dating from 1900 to 2003. The reunion event is part of a campaign we will be running throughout February, to celebrate our proud history with Oswestry Town FC. The event will take place on either February 26 or 27."

People interested in attending are asked to email charlotte@bhinspire.com by January 29.

Event in support of annual party

A COFFEE morning is taking place in aid of an annual senior citizens New Year party.

The coffee morning will be held in the Corn Exchange of Welshpool Town Hall tomorrow (Friday), from 9am to noon.

There will also be a variety of stalls as well as a raffle. The event is being held ahead of the party that is taking place next Tuesday, at 2pm in the town hall.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Police probe on ex-leader ongoing

POLICE say inquiries over a complaint against former Shropshire Council leader Keith Barrow are "incomplete". West Mercia Police confirmed that investigations are "ongoing" regarding the complaint of misconduct in a public office against a man believed to be Mr Barrow that was made in December.

Police were also keen to stress the inquiries currently fall short of a criminal investigation.

West Mercia Police spokesman Paul Roberts said: "Inquiries have progressed but are incomplete at this stage."

Mr Barrow, 62, who represented the Oswestry South ward, stepped down in December after six years at the helm of Shropshire Council. The Tory said he had intended to resign before the next council election but brought the decision forward after his "motivation wavered".

Shortly before his resignation a council inquiry found that Mr Barrow had failed to declare an interest while

Chance to try out yoga at The Centre

TEENAGERS and young people are invited to attend a free yoga taster next week.

The event will take place at The Centre, Oak Street in Oswestry on Wednesday.

There will be two different sessions - one for each age group.

The session for those aged 11 to 13 will take place between 5.15pm and 5.45pm.

And organisers say the session for those aged 14 to 18 will be held from 5.45pm to 6.30pm.

To book a space on the yoga sessions people are asked to email yoga@ojo@mail.com

Doubts are voiced over cinema plan

AS no progress is yet made on Oswestry's proposed multi-screen cinema complex, the owners of an independent cinema nearby have said they doubt the local area could support such a venture.

Cineworld had planned to come to Oswestry as part of a £45million leisure and shopping complex at the Smithfield market on the edge of the town, which would also have included a new Morrisons. But the development has stalled, with neither company having any comment to make on when - or if - work will continue.

Ian Garland, who runs the one-screen independent Kinokultore cinema in the town centre, said he doesn't believe there would be enough demand in the local area to support a large cinema.

"To do it on a scale where you are employing staff and have a huge wage bill, you need to have enough bums on seats - and to do that, you need to have an area of catchment," he said.

"Our practical area is 35,000 people, which would not support a large cinema complex."

"It would need to bring people in from further away and I don't ever see it's possible to do it."

Crew called out to school alarm

A FAULTY detector led to firefighters being called to a school.

Firefighters from Baschurch were called to Packwood Haugh School in Ruyton XI Towns, near Oswestry, on Saturday.

The incident happened just after 10am on Saturday.

No action was needed by the fire crew. The firefighters left the scene before 10.15am.

WE MEAN BUSINESS

THE Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign celebrates Oswestry's business. This week we celebrate Teresa Sugarcraft.

Teresa Jones has run a floral art and cake decoration stall at Oswestry Indoor Market for more than 30 years.

"The best bit of the job," says Teresa, "is working with the customers, giving a personal service and expert advice."

"Don't forget the cake," she adds. "Cakes come in all shapes and sizes, and a bespoke design doesn't need to cost the earth."

Increasingly, family members want to lend a hand. Adding professionally made sugarcraft toppers can turn your cake into a masterpiece.

Teresa's store which is located at the top of the ramp at the market, has often been described as an Aladdin's cave.

You'll find hundreds of rolls of ribbon, and stacks of cake boards in every corner.

As well as creating toppers to your design, she is a great resource for cake tin and stand hire, icing, marzipan and more.

She said: "Customer service is the most important thing. You make time for your customers and provide a service that they won't get anywhere else."

"People talk about Cae Glas Park being Oswestry's Jewel in the Crown, but I think Oswestry Market takes that honour."

Contact Teresa on 07754 150901 or visit www.teresasugarcraft.co.uk



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Volunteers are needed for service

A CHARITY wants to recruit volunteers to help run its toenail cutting service for local older people.

Age Cymru Powys said it urgently needs volunteers to deliver its 'Simply Nails' toenail cutting to older people in the Llansantffraid, Welshpool and Crickhowell areas.

The charity says being able to have toenails cut plays an important part in keeping people mobile and active, but as they get older some can find it harder to cut their toenails because they are thicker and bending can be harder, which may mean they can damage the skin or nails.

People should contact Age Cymru Powys on (01982) 553852, or email gail.hamer@acpowys.org.uk for more information.

Group celebrates big grant award

A GROUP which supports people with mental health issues has secured a £375,000 grant.

The Ponthafran Association, which works in Mid Wales, will benefit from the £375,568 funding boost after being successful in its bid to The Big Lottery. The registered charity, which has facilities in Welshpool, Newtown and Llanidloes, commits itself to promoting wellbeing, learning and recovery within the community.

Peter Bayliss, chair of trustees at the Ponthafran Association, said: "I was very pleased to hear of the award as it substantially secures the future of Ponthafran's valuable work for another three years. It will also help us expand the services we offer our members."

Councillors warned of wind farm concerns

Report by Pam Kingsley

FEARS have been raised that Government bosses could make a U-turn on a decision to refuse permission for two controversial wind farms in Mid Wales.

Members of Welshpool Town Council were updated on the progress of the applications for the wind farms in Powys at their meeting on Wednesday last week.

Although the plans were initially refused, Amber Rudd, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, will look again at cases for wind farms at Carnedd Wen, near Llanidloes, and Llanbrynmair.

If approved they could see a power line run from the farms through Powys and west Shropshire to near Oswestry.

At last week's meeting, Welshpool Town Clerk Robert Robinson said: "In my 40-odd years in planning when I've seen this happen is that the minister doesn't want to lose face so he makes a few changes and passes it, unfortunately.

"But the decision is unlikely to be with us before May."

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies, who has led the fight against the proposed wind farms, has previously said he is not concerned by the situation. He said despite initial appearances that the decision has been reversed, it has simply taken the process back a step again. The wind farm and power line proposals have met strong opposition from the public.

MP's praise for dancers' donation



Glyn Davies and Welshpool Dancers present the cheque to Louise Dawson

GLYN Davies, Conservative MP for Montgomeryshire, has praised local dancing group Welshpool Dancers for their donation to the Lingen Davies Cancer Fund.

Welshpool Dancers group member Shirley Andrews recently celebrated her 70th birthday, and gave £500 of birthday donations to the group.

Welshpool Dancers have now donated the money to the Lingen Davies Cancer Relief Fund, based at Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

Mr Davies recently joined Shirley Andrews and fellow Welshpool Dancers members in presenting the cheque to Lingen Davies fundraising manager Louise Dawson.

The MP said: "Welshpool Dancers have been fantastic supporters of local charities for many years.

"The generosity of Shirley Andrews, a keen member of the group, is tremendous.

"I know the excellent Lingen Davies Charity personally. It carries out wonderful work which is dependent on local support."

Ramblers to take on a circular walk

THE next Welshpool Ramblers walk will take place on Sunday and will see Gerry Skinner lead a circular walk of about 6.5 miles in the Haughmond Hill area outside Shrewsbury.

The walk will pass along field paths and through the Forestry Commission recreational area.

Fine views of the Haughmond Abbey of the surrounding countryside are possible.

The route is not strenuous but expect mud throughout.

Meet at 9:30am in the car park beside the Welshpool Tourist Centre or alternatively at the start of the walk at the Community Centre car park, Uffington, (OS gridref SJ 528 139) for a 10:15am start.

All are welcome, but no dogs are allowed on the walk.

Further information can be obtained on (01938) 561421.

On January 10, Sandra Smith led a group of 15 Welshpool Ramblers on a 6.5 mile circular walk from Meifod.

Although the weather was largely fine, including some welcome winter sunshine, underfoot conditions following the recent rains dictated a few changes to the planned route.

Council in rough sleeping appeal

RESIDENTS are being asked to help identify anyone that may be sleeping rough to enable Powys County Council to support them.

Members of the public can report any instances of rough sleeping they come across by contacting Powys County Council on (01597) 827464.

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The recycling machines which eat the carpets and turns them into fibres for the equestrian industry



Horses are put through their paces on the new surface

New venture is a hit

IT has been a racing start for a new recycling venture launched by a waste management company in Mid Wales.

The Potter Group has expanded into carpet recycling, with the equestrian sector benefitting from the finished products.

The Welshpool-based company has opened a new recycling plant to create a new equine exercise surface made from carpet fibre. Those in charge of the company are no strangers to the

Report by Sue Austin

world of horse racing, with owner James Potter and his wife Jean breeders and owners of a large string of horses. Extensive contacts in the horse racing community was a key factor in the Potter Group developing the surface for use on gallops and riding arenas.

The opportunity was identified in conjunction with leading trainers including Welsh Grand National winning trainer Kerry Lee, who runs Bell House stables at Byton, near

Presteigne. Developed with £100,000 support from the Wales Economic Growth Fund, the carpet recycling plant is now fully operational and has created 10 new jobs and safeguarded a further six.

Debbie Potter, the company's operations director, said: "A specialist heavy duty shredding plant and associated equipment reduces the carpet to a flock consistency. It is then ready to be used on equestrian exercise areas either on its own or as a blend with sand or rubber crumb."



Keiran McCabe, carpet recycling centre manager, with some of the new fibre being produced through the new carpet recycling venture

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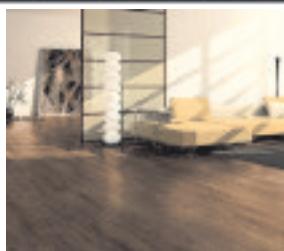
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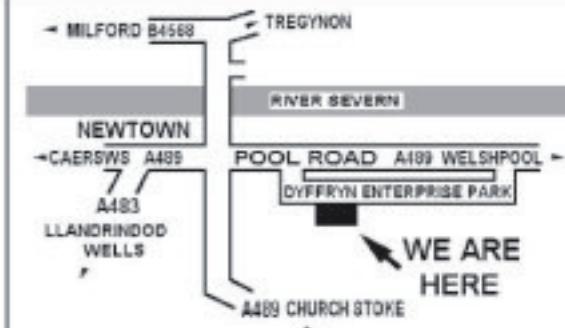
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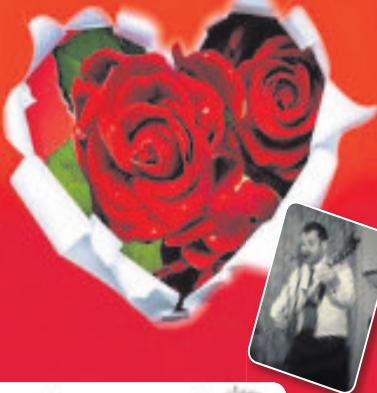
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Sweet Chili Langoustines Endive Salad & Coriander
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Duck Liver Parfait Tomato Chutney, Dressed Endive & Melba Toast
Tomato Soup Crisp Rocket and Green Olive Scone

Main

Lamb Rump Ratatouille Vegetables, Red Currant Jus & Dauphinoise Potatoes
Pork Wellington Black Pudding, Fondant Potato & Cider Jus
Aubergine, Courgette & Tomato Stack Mozzarella, Sauce Vierge & Sautéed New Potatoes

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FEBRUARY 2016

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Jack Daniels-style Chicken Wings Crispy chicken wings, drizzled with BBQ Jack Daniels sauce, served with homemade coleslaw and salad

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Desserts

Lamb Rump on a bed of pureed Root Vegetables, Dauphinoise potatoes, fine Green Beans and a Red Wine jus
Oven Baked Fillet of Salmon with a lemon and dill sauce, served with Spring Onion Mash, fine Green Beans and Asparagus shoots
Steak a la Moutarde Strips of steak in a creamy mushroom, brandy and mustard sauce, served with chips or rice
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Starters

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or
Sun blushed tomato arancini stuffed with bocconcini, warm tomato and basil consommé

Pink grapefruit and burgundy granite

Main Courses

Pan seared breast of duck, confit duck leg, duck bon bon, pomegranate sauce, star anise carrot puree, wilted bok choy, confit potatoes

or
Fillet of local beef, textures of onions and mushrooms, bone marrow fritter, potato and thyme cream, glazed baby vegetables, truffle puree

or
Roasted pear, confit tomato and goat's cheese tatin, compressed tomato heirloom tian, lightly spiced potato and lentil dahl, hazelnut and brioche crumb, textures of root vegetables

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Desserts

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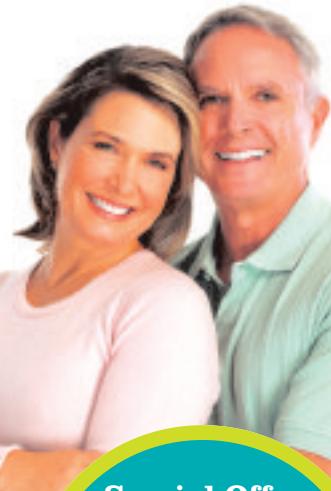
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Prepare well for winter motoring



Roads can quickly become treacherous during the winter months and the AA advises motorists to be prepared for the worst

TAKING good care of your car is essential to ensure you travel safely through the colder winter months, the AA has said.

Max Holdstock from the roads body said: "The arrival of more typical winter

weather will have many of us reaching for the thermostat but it's not just us who feel the chill.

"The cold can cause problems for your car too, and in more ways than many people realise. Breakdowns can double in very cold weather but up to half are potentially pre-

ventable through regular servicing and maintenance checks. The most common call to the AA for help is a flat battery."

He advises keeping an ear out for local traffic and weather reports and driving in severe winter weather only if it's essential. He added: "The vital thing is to drive smoothly, keep your



Good vehicle care is essential for safe winter driving

speed down and avoid sharp acceleration, braking or cornering as far as possible by keeping plenty of space between yourself and the car in front. Be alert to black ice particularly on unsalted roads - it's difficult to see as the road will simply look wet. On an icy road, start in second gear or engage winter mode if an au-

tomatic and keep in as high a gear as possible. Keep warm clothing in your car, first aid kit, personal medication, high energy refreshment such as chocolate, drinking water, torch, keep your phone charged and take a traditional map as well as your sat-nav and download the AA App."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Health chiefs told of wrong date problem

MORE than 300 people were given the incorrect date for referral to treatment at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

In addition 28 patients were identified as waiting more than 52 weeks for treatment at the hospital.

Hospitals can be fined £5,000 per patient per week for any waits over a year. The orthopaedic has currently budgeted £200,000 for penalties relating to the long-waiting patients.

At a meeting of Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) new figures revealed that out of an audit of 1,286 patients; 885 had the correct date for a referral for treatment, 312 had an incorrect date, 26 were not on the pathway and there was insufficient information for 63.

Dr Julie Davies, director of strategy and service redesign at the CCG, said changes had been made at the hospital since the numbers were revealed. She said the hospital had corrected its reporting practice and added: "In terms of the issues on reporting they are going through a formal process with Monitor, the sector regulator.

"A total of 28 patients were declared as waiting more than 52 weeks at the end of November.

"There were also 72 long wait patients identified.

"The position as of January 6 is out of a planned list of 1,362 patients only 537 now do not have a date or have one in the past. Additional capacity is being sourced to clear spinal injuries."

Worries over 'remote' court

A PLEA has been made to keep a magistrates court open amid fears it would make the service too remote.

Proposals to close Shrewsbury Magistrates Court and transfer its responsibilities to Telford have been criticised by members of Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council.

Now the council has written to the Lord Chancellor's office urging a rethink.

Council chairman, Councillor Sue Crowe, said: "Our parishioners have already been disadvantaged by the closure of Oswestry Magistrates Court.

"This move will make access to their court even more remote for them."

The council said Selattyn and Gobowen is on the Welsh border, far from the centre of Shropshire.

"We are 40 plus miles from Telford along the very busy and often congested A5 and M54."

"The increased cost and time involved would be substantial, especially for those who have to use public transport."

The council points out to the Lord Chancellor that the parish is designated as deprived.

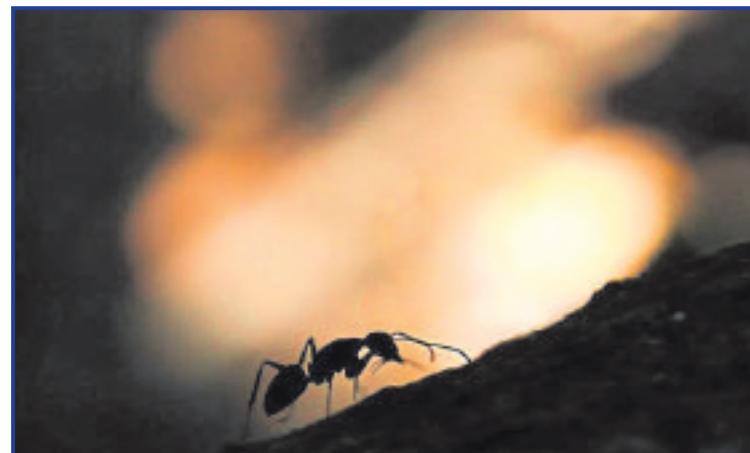
"Everyone deserves to have equal access to justice if this move takes place we feel that this will not be true for many of our parishioners," she added.

Plea over fake police vehicle

OFFICERS are asking for help to track a van which was pretending to be a police vehicle.

The white van was seen parked on the A5 near Gobowen on January 8 at about 4pm. It had flashing blue lights on the grill and was pretending to be a police vehicle, causing passing traffic to pull over.

Three burglaries also took place on the same day. The first happened between 10.30am and 3.45pm at a house in Old Chirk Road, Gobowen, and jewellery was taken. Between 2pm and 3pm, a neighbouring property was also broken into. Jewellery and a set of car keys were stolen, and a blue Vauxhall Corsa was taken from the driveway. At about 6pm on the same day three men dressed in black were confronted in a business unit in Mile Oak Industrial Estate, Maesbury. They were escorted off the premises. It was later discovered a wallet containing cash had been taken.

Talented photographer Mairi enjoys photo success

Mairi Eyres's stunning silhouette photograph of this ant proved a winner with a panel of experts



Mairi Eyres taking photographs in the wild

A TEENAGE photographer has been named among the best in the country in the RSPCA Young Photographer Awards.

Mairi Eyres, 17, took top spot in the portfolio category for her stunning set of wildlife photos entitled Framed and also took top prize for her

Ant in Silhouette shot in the contest for people aged between 16 and 18. With a dozen images in the final she just missed out on the overall top spot.

The winning images were shortlisted by a panel of judges made up of wildlife photogra-

phers and industry experts led by BBC Springwatch's Chris Packham.

Mairi, from Bwlth y Ddar near Llanfyllin in Powys, said: "When I photograph wildlife I like trying to frame the subject in an interesting or unusual way."

"Sometimes this framing is achieved by using the shapes and spaces found in the surrounding habitat, and sometimes it involves making use of the way areas of the subject are picked out by the light falling on different elements within the picture."



Katrina Boydon feeding her pigs



Katrina Boydon inside the furnished stable

BUSINESS BLOOMS

Report by Pam Kingsley

THE owner of a glamping site is enjoying success with her luxury yurts.

But the quiet countryside around Oswestry is a far cry from the globe-trotting lifestyle Katrina Boydon used to enjoy before settling down and opening the campsite.

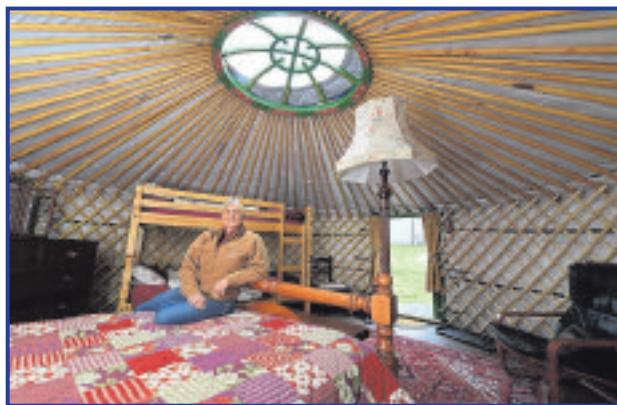
Mrs Boydon, who runs Barnutopia Luxury Glamping at Tanycoed Farm in Llansilin with her husband Steve, grew up in Llangollen but has been working around the world for two decades. She said: "It was a real lifestyle choice and change for us. I'm from Llangollen originally but lived abroad for more than 20 years in Russia, France and the United States. The last 'proper' job I had was 10 years as vice president and head of web content and media operations for a Silicon Valley media and marketing company. I gave that up towards the end of summer 2013 and spent a year thinking about what to do - then we decided to move back to Britain and open a yurt glamping site."

The family moved into Tanycoed Farm in April and opened for business in June. The site currently has three luxury yurts, a furnished stable and a comfortable dome tent, and has submitted planning permission to add another seven yurts. Since opening the couple have been working to restore the buildings at the farm.

"The buildings were unusable and even dangerous for people and animals," Mrs Boydon said. "Now, the stables and outdoor kitchen shack have been repaired, the pasture fencing has been re-done, and we've repaired the old pigsty and have two pigs. We've had over 50 five-star reviews, and only five-star reviews, on TripAdvisor, Facebook, Pitchup and Airbnb, so far."



Katrina Boydon with one of the yurts



Katrina Boydon inside a yurt at Tanycoed Farm, Llansilin



The glamping business at Tanycoed Farm in Llansilin has yurts and a furnished stable



The glamping business is blooming

Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



Choosing the right agent for your home

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, January 21, 2016

Making your home more attractive

There's a range of things you can do to make your home more attractive when you decide to put it on the market, from reorganising the furniture to tidying the garden.

A welcoming kitchen is one of the biggest attractions for potential house buyers. Whether you have a comfortable family oriented meeting place or a stylish singletons galley, the kitchen is most often the heart of the home.

Regardless of your budget, there are a number of simple ways you can maximise its attraction to buyers and speed up the sale of your house: Replacing your entire kitchen to attract buyers is not always necessary. Often the cost of installing a new kitchen outweighs the value it will add to your asking price. Like all home decor, the kitchen will still be subject to personal taste, so if it does not appeal to your buyers they will refit it upon moving in anyway. If your kitchen is very dated, simple changes can make all the difference. Painting the cupboard doors, replacing handles or taps and re-grouting the tiles can all give a new lease of life.

Clean and de-clutter! Viewers may even look in your cupboards so ensure shelves are cleaned and all contents are organised. Any pet bowls should go outside as potential buyers may not be animal lovers so could be put off by the sight of half eaten pet food.

If necessary, box up items you don't use very often and put them in storage. If your cupboards and drawers are overflowing, buyers will assume there is little storage space, which can be off-putting. Keep work surfaces as clear as possible to enhance the



appearance of cleanliness.

Flowers or pot pourri on window sills create a welcoming atmosphere and add a fresh fragrance.

Using these simple but effective ideas will ensure your kitchen looks appealing and entices potential buyers into a prompt decision! No matter how big your home, it's important to maximise the rooms to create a sense of space, especially if you are trying to sell your property.

Here are some tips to make any home feel more spacious:

Mirrors are great for making your home feel

more spacious. In small areas large mirrors can be used to make the room look longer or wider. They are especially useful in hallways where they can be used to manipulate the perception of space by reflecting light and colour.

Having too big a dining table in your dining room can make the area shrink. To maximise space, put up roman blinds rather than curtains, and plan your storage carefully so that clutter is out of sight. This is especially important in the bedroom, because the less clutter you see, the more relaxing the room will be.

Match neutral colours on the walls with similar

flooring in downstairs spaces to give the impression of space flowing from one room to another. Bright shades of carpet or distracting patterns are to be avoided.

If you follow all of these ideas then you are sure to achieve the maximum use of space in your home, and in turn attain the highest possible price for it.

Gardens are too often forgotten in the race to make the most of a property, but their condition can sometimes be the deciding factor on value. It's a common-held belief that the decision on whether or not to buy a property is made within the first few moments of viewing it.

The state of the front garden is therefore a prime consideration for anyone choosing to sell their home. Drive-by desirability is all important as first impressions really do count. Make sure your front garden is neat, tidy and easily maintained. Hanging baskets and flower troughs establish the cared-for look without creating too much work. Any lawn areas should be neatly trimmed, and trees cut back and controlled. A well-presented front door, with pots alongside it, goes a long way towards generating a sense of welcome.

The back of the house is arguably even more important than the front, as this is where the most work is likely to lie. Today's busy lifestyle means the majority of people don't have much time to spend on gardening, so creating some low maintenance areas is invaluable. Decking, paving and woodchips can be used to differentiate areas of the garden and simplify them. Any trees and hedges should be kept under control and fences maintained.

Selecting which estate agency to sell your home (your biggest asset) can be worrying for anyone. You can make your decision more straightforward by following a few simple rules:

The first thing to do when searching for a quality estate agent is to check that they belong to a professional body like the NAEA. This is because all our members have to complete an accredited qualification on estate agency and are bound by strict rules. Selecting an agent who is one of our members will ensure your peace of mind as they offer a solid understanding of the market, and furthermore, we offer you a fair complaints procedure.

A great help when selecting an agent is reputation. If family, friends, neighbours or people you know have had a good experience with a particular agent, then this can be a great help in making your decision.

Look out for the number of 'for sale' signs and in particular 'sold' signs around your local area. This will tell you which agents are most popular, and therefore can generate more leads for you.

Advertisements for properties in the local newspapers will also tell you which agents stand out from the rest and also tell you which areas the agents cover. The local press will help to inform you how the local market is performing. This empowers you when talking to agents, buyers and interested parties.

Make sure you get on well with your chosen agent – this will be invaluable during the whole process.

Remember, choosing a member of the NAEA offers higher standards, protection and a complaints procedure for you. You can search for NAEA members at <http://www.naea.co.uk/find-agent/>

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If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.





Four-bedroom property has period features

This is a rare opportunity to purchase a spacious, four-bedroom, semi-detached property. Greystones Court on Shrewsbury Road is situated on the fringe of the popular market town of Oswestry.

The property has period features throughout and offers flexible living accommodation including large entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, dining room, cloakroom, boiler room, cellar, four large bedrooms and family bathroom.

Externally the property is approached over a gravelled driveway leading to private gardens, patio and ample off road parking. Offers in the region of £279,500. Contact Bowen Son and Watson on 01691 652367.



Bungalow set in pleasant rural location

Swn y Nant at Brooks, Berriew, comprises a highly desirable detached three bedroom bungalow set in a pleasant rural location, with useful outbuildings and attractive landscaped gardens and grounds. It is for sale for £269,995 through Halls.

The accommodation is well laid out and provides for a utility room, large kitchen/breakfast room, sitting room and conservatory off, which makes an ideal dining area.

There are three bedrooms and a good sized family bath and shower room. For more details contact Halls on 01938 555552.



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• Lounge & Study
• Breakfast Kitchen &
Utility
• Sun Room
• Bed Room & En-Suite
• Children's Play Room/
Fourth Bedroom
• Garage & Car Parking
• Extensive Views
• EPC Band C
JJDB82

• Victorian Terraced
House
• Walking Distance Of
Town Centre
• GFCH & PVC D/G
• Kitchen
• Living Room
• Two Bedrooms
• Garage
• Good Sized Garden
• EPC Band D
JJDB85

• Good sized building
plot
• Approx. 720 sq. metres
• Light after residential
area
• P/permission for
detached bungalow
with double Garage
• Residential level
walking distance of
Town
• We understand all
main services are
available to site
JJDB787



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11 Parc Llwyfen, Llanymynech £315,000

Detached four bedroom house and garage. Two receptions, study, kitchen and utility. Family bathroom and en-suite shower. Gas-fired central heating, double glazing. Enclosed and well maintained rear garden. Pleasant recent established estate. Close to village amenities and A483. EPC Rating = 62 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



30 Summerfield Close, Oswestry £137,500

Semi detached on cul-de-sac. Two reception rooms, three bedrooms. Ground floor cloakroom, first floor bathroom. Gas-fired central heating, double glazing. Driveway and car-port to side. Gardens to both front and rear. Available with no onward chain. EPC Rating = 62 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



22 Ash Road, Oswestry £82,500

Mid terrace two bedroom house. Lounge and kitchen/breakfast room. First floor fitted bathroom. Partial double glazing. Electric storage heaters, radiant gas fire. Close to the town centre. Available with no upward chain. EPC Rating = 31 (F)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



30 Bridge Street, Llanfyllin £89,950

Two bedroom mid terrace town house. Sitting room and fitted kitchen/breakfast. Ground floor fitted bathroom. Electric storage heaters and double glazing. Enclosed gravelled rear garden. Close to all town centre amenities. Available with No Onward Chain. Energy Efficiency Rating = 44 (E)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



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Oswestry Office 01691 679595



Former Carneddau Chapel, Trefonen £85,000

Residential Development Project. Full planning permission granted. Open plan Living/Dining & Kitchen. Three bedrooms, en-suite and bathroom. Ground floor cloaks and utility. On-site parking provision. Adjoining enclosed outside space. Water, electricity and drainage provided.

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



29 Upper Chirk Bank £189,000

Spacious detached bungalow. 3/4 Bedrooms and modern bathroom. Lounge / Diner with cast iron multi fuel burner. Gas-fired central heating, double glazing. Enclosed rear garden and detached garage. Located in easy reach of A5 Trunk Road. Close to the Llangollen Canal. EPC Rating = 62 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

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2 Bed End-Ter House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=49) (£470 dep)	£370 pcm
2 Bed Mid-Ter House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=70) (£550)	£450 pcm
2 Bed Semi-Det House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=39) (£450 dep)	£450 pcm
3 Bed 1st Floor Flat, Gas C/H, No Pets, (EER=61) (£600 dep)	£500 pcm
3 Bed Mid-Ter House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=64) (£625 dep)	£525 pcm

GOBOWEN

1 Bed Open Plan Flat, Elect/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=68) (£350 dep)	£250 pcm
2 Bed Semi-Det House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=74) (£575 dep)	£475 pcm
3 Bed Semi-Det House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=52) (£595 dep)	£495 pcm
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LLANFYLLIN

2 Bed Mid-Ter House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=77) (£495 dep)	£395 pcm
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Fees: Application Fee: £40. Lease Fee: £150 www.morrismarshall.co.uk



3 Llanforda Mead, Oswestry £285,000

A detached four bedroom house on this popular edge of town residential estate set with "award winning" gardens. Offering exceptionally well maintained accommodation with the benefit of gas-fired central heating, double glazing and security alarm. An internal inspection is highly recommended to appreciate the well planned living accommodation. EPC Rating = 63 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

Aberystwyth 01970 625020
Llanidloes 01686 412567
Machynlleth 01654 702472

Newtown 01686 626160
Oswestry 01691 679595
Shrewsbury 01743 247755

Tywyn 01654 710388
Welshpool 01938 554818
Aberdyfi (window display)



Home situated in the heart of picturesque valley

With no chain, Minfford is a deceptively spacious semi-detached house located in the heart of the Ceiriog Valley in the picturesque and sought after village of Llanarmon DC.

It is on the market with Town & Country and offers are in excess of £135,000. The property boasts three bedrooms, modern bathroom and attractive kitchen with an extensive range of units and breakfast/eating area. The property has a light and spacious feel and takes in much of the surrounding countryside. Outside there are two parking spaces and viewing is essential to appreciate the location, condition and size of the property. For more details contact Town & Country on 01691 679631.

 **TOWN & COUNTRY**



Highly desirable family home in popular village

A highly desirable two storey four bedroome family home within the popular village of Guisfield, Oak House is on the market through Halls for £385,000. Situated on a generous plot the property is within a short walking distance of all village amenities. The accommodation provides for entrance hall with doors off to study, ground floor WC, dining room, main reception room, a well fitted kitchen with Rangemaster range cooker and central island, breakfast area and snug. A central staircase leads up to a galleried landing area with doors off to the master bedroom, with en-suite bathroom, three further double bedrooms and the family shower room. For more information contact Halls on 01938 555552.

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NEW




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NEW




**College Road
Oswestry**

£134,995

- A fully refurbished 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Living Room
- Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility
- 3 First Floor Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway Parking

NEW




**Castle Street
Oswestry**

£92,950

- Deceptively spacious 2 Bedroom Terraced House
- Situated close to Oswestry town centre and all amenities.
- The property contains a host of original features
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Cellar
- Kitchen, 2 good size Bedrooms, Bathroom and Attic Room.
- Externally the property has a PRIVATE slabbed courtyard style garden
- Gas central heating and partial double glazing




**Park Avenue
Oswestry**

£120,000

- 2 Bedroom Terraced Property
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Good size lawned enclosed rear garden
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- EPC Rating E. NO CHAIN




**Great Ness
Shrewsbury**

£350,000

- Grade II Listed Period Property
- Spacious 4 Bedroom Detached House with large gardens
- Lounge, Living Room, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Utility & Shower Room
- 3 Large Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- A further 2 Bedrooms and a Study




**Celyn House
Weston Rhyn**

£324,950

- Substantial Detached 5 Bedroom Property
- 5 Bed, 3 Bath, 2 Reception, Kitchen/Utility, Cellar
- Ground Flr Bathroom, 5 Beds (2 en-suite) & Family Bathm
- Mature & well maintained gardens & off-road parking
- Oil C/H & hardwood D/G. EPC Rating G




**Croesaubach
Oswestry**

£450,000

- Spacious 3 Bedroom Detached Cottage/Smallholding
- With Outbuildings, Stables, Field Shelters and 10.75 Acres
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Oil Fired Central Heating
- Double Garage & Ample Parking
- EPC Rating F




**Old Chirk Road
Gobowen**

£189,995

- A well positioned 4 Bedroom Detached Family Property
- Entrance Lobby, Entrance Hall/Study, Lounge, Living Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Dining Room
- Utility, Cloakroom, Conservatory, 4 Bedrooms (master en-suite) and Family Bathroom
- Good size gardens and large parking area to the rear
- uPVC double glazing and Gas C/H (where stated)
- EPC Rating F




**Pentre
Shrewsbury**

£200,000

- A superbly presented and spacious 2 Bedroom Detached House
- Situated approximately 2 miles from the popular village of Nesscliffe
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Cloakroom/WC
- Large Kitchen/Breakfast Room, 2 Double BedRooms (en-suites)
- Large garden provides parking for several vehicles or caravan
- Double glazing and oil fired central heating. EPC Rating C
- NO CHAIN




**Cae Gwynn Close
Morda**

£190,000

- Superbly appointed 4 Bedroom Detached House
- The property has been maintained to the highest of standard
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen
- Utility, Cloakroom, Conservatory
- 4 BedRooms (master en-suite) and Family Bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden with patio, Driveway parking and garage
- Gas fired central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating C




**Henley Drive
Oswestry**

£171,000

- Immaculate 3 Bed Detached Property
- Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Lounge
- Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility
- 3 Beds (master en-suite) & Family Bathroom
- Well stocked and established gardens
- Off-road parking with potential for garage
- UPVC D/G, gas central heating, EPC Rating C




**Church Lane
St Martins**

£174,995

- NO Spacious 3 Bed Detached Bungalow
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Kitchen/Dining Room
- 3 BedRooms and Family Bathroom
- The property is in need of modernisation throughout
- Electric heating and timber D/G
- EPC Rating D

Oswestry
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Five bedroom property has outstanding views

A detached five bedroomed country property with outstanding views, Bryn Paenod, Llanfechain, is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £400,000. The property is situated in a large garden and has been extensively refurbished by the current owners to a high standard throughout. Accommodation comprises kitchen, drawing room, sun room, lounge, library, study, cloakroom, five bedrooms and two bathrooms. There is double garaging, a good sized garden and the property is in a private position. For more information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



Beautifully presented property in a popular village

An attractive modern and beautifully presented three bedroom end of terrace family home, 42 Parc Caradog is situated in a convenient location in the popular village of Trewern. It is on the market through Halls for £139,500. The property is situated on a small estate of 17 houses which were built in 2005/06. The property is a most suitable project for a blossoming young family with three bedrooms, two bathrooms and the study/nursery. The accommodation is very adaptable and an inspection is recommended. For more details contact Halls on 01938 555552.



Smallholding is in an idyllic rural location

A smallholding in an idyllic rural location, Ty Cerrig at Croesaubach has outstanding views of the Shropshire plain, yet is just three miles from Oswestry. It is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson with offers in the region of £450,000. The property comprises a spacious three-bedroomed detached cottage standing in mature gardens, a range of useful outbuildings, stables and field shelters together with about 10.75 acres of excellent pasture land located in a ring fence immediately to the rear of the house. Call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk



Bungalow sits on outskirts of popular village

A fine detached bungalow on the outskirts of a village, Oakdene, Oak Farm Lane, West Felton can be found down a quiet country lane. Set well back from the road and with a tarmacadam driveway with ample parking, it is for sale through JJ Dell & Co with offers in the region of £259,500. It has a porch and entrance hall, living room, a modern fitted kitchen, three bedrooms and a shower room. The front garden has a lawn and ornamental pool and the private rear garden has a lawn. For further information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 or visit www.jjdell.co.uk



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- Sun Room
- Large Garden

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- Large Town House
- Former 19th Century Inn
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- Two Kitchens
- Gym

Offers in the region of £250,000

PANT



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- Oil Central Heating
- Off-Road Parking
- Fantastic Position

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WOOLSTON BANK, NR MAESBURY



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- Off-Road Parking
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- Family Bathroom

£186,000

OSWESTRY



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- Conservatory
- Off Road Parking and Garage
- Gas Central Heating
- uPVC Double Glazing

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LETTINGS

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- Pontrobert - 3 Bed Semi-Detached - £450pcm
- Melverley - 3 Bed Detached with land - £1100pcm
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- Farmhouse
- 160 Acres of Land

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- Range of Outbuildings
- Woodland

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- Bathroom And Ensuite

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- Detached Double Garage
- Spacious Accommodation

OSWESTRY



- NO CHAIN!!
- Well Presented
- Three Bedroom

Offers in the region of £249,950



- Off-Road Parking
- Local Amenities Close
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- Single Garage
- Outbuilding
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL

OSWESTRY

OSWESTRY



- Well Maintained Throughout
- Three Bedroom
- Detached Bungalow

£170,000



- Garage
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- Off-Road Parking

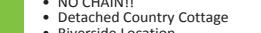
OSWESTRY



- Delightful Mid Terrace
- Period Property
- Two Bedrooms

£165,000

OSWESTRY



- Tastefully Decorated
- Gas Central Heating
- Sash UPVC Windows

OSWESTRY



- Detached
- Two Bedroom Bungalow
- Garage

£164,950



- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Enclosed Rear Garden

OSWESTRY



- Ground Floor Flat
- One Bedroom
- Well Maintained Throughout
- Parking Provision for Two Cars

£68,500

OSWESTRY



- IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
- INVESTMENT PROPERTY
- Two Bedroom
- Semi-Detached

£75,000

GOBOWEN



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- Two Bed Bungalow
- Well Presented
- 24 Hour Support Staff

£107,000

OSWESTRY



- Retirement Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- First Floor
- EPC C

£115,000

OSWESTRY



- IDEAL FIRST TIME BUYER
- INVESTMENT PROPERTY
- Three Bedrooms
- Three Storey

£124,950

LLANRHAEDR YM



- Development Opportunity!!
- Former Primary School
- Power and Water Supplied
- Kitchen

Offers in excess of £125,000



Attractive home within walking distance of town centre

An attractive Victorian end-of-terrace house with loft room, 16 Vymwy Road, Oswestry is on the market through JJ Dell & Co for offers over £124,950. The property is within walking distance of Oswestry's shopping centre. The home has gas central heating. Accommodation comprises two reception rooms, dining kitchen, two bedrooms, modern bathroom and loft room. There is a rear garden. The property is within walking distance of Woodside Primary School. For more information Contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



Eye-catching home with outstanding views

Outstanding views to the Breidden Hills bestow the namesake of Breidden View on this eye-catching five bedroom house. Breidden View is found in the hamlet of Grimpoo. Ground floor accommodation is well laid out with entrance hall, four reception rooms, plus kitchen and utility. The first floor provides five bedrooms while the master bedroom has en-suite bathroom and balcony. There is a double garage with adjacent workshop/garage, plus large gardens totalling more than half an acre. Breidden View is marketed by Balfours with a guide price of £485,000. For more information call 01743 353511 or visit www.balfours.co.uk



Executive home for sale with no chain

Being close to good village facilities, including main line rail services, a mini supermarket, post office, pub and golf course, 2 Bryn Y Castell Gardens, St Martins Road, Gobowen is a modern detached home ideal for family living. It is for sale through JJ Dell & Co for offers in the region of £244,995 with no chain. Accommodation includes a porch, a reception hall, a ground floor WC, a kitchen, a utility room, a dining room with sliding glazed doors to a conservatory, master bedroom en-suite, three further bedrooms and a bathroom. For further information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 or visit www.jjdell.co.uk



Stunning residence has 12 acres of land

A stunning country residence with 12 acres of land, situated in a private, rural location under five miles from the Shropshire border market town of Oswestry, is on offer with agents Halls for £699,950. Stone House Farm, Selattyn is a period farmhouse with characterful accommodation which has been tastefully renovated to provide a luxury family home, which comes with pasture paddocks and woodland, a manege, stable blocks and outbuildings.

Viewing is by appointment with Halls' Oswestry office on 01691 670320.





Cinema listings

CREED (12A)



Boxing clever – 9/10
Apollo Creed's son Adonis Johnson has boxing in his blood and so turns down a promotion at work to chase his sporting dreams. He heads to Philadelphia to seek out Rocky Balboa in the hope the boxing hero will become his trainer. Despite initial misgivings, Rocky mentors Adonis ahead of a bout with 'Pretty' Ricky Conlan.

THE HATEFUL EIGHT (18)



Tarantino masterpiece – 8/10
While racing toward the town of Red Rock bounty hunter John "The Hangman" Ruth and his fugitive prisoner encounter another bounty hunter (Samuel L. Jackson) and a man who claims to be a sheriff. Sheltering from a blizzard, the group encounters four strangers. The eight travellers soon learn that they may not make it to their destinations.

THE DANISH GIRL (15)



Pioneering – 9/10
The Danish Girl is a fictionalised account of Lili Elbe, a pioneer of the transgender movement, who was one of the first people to undergo gender reassignment surgery in the 1920s. Adopting the guise of flame-haired ingenue Lili Elbe, Einar Wegener (Eddie Redmayne) confronts the deep-rooted belief that he has been born into the wrong body.

JOY (12A)



Cleaning up – 8/10
With Jennifer Lawrence in the titular role and narrated by Joy's benevolent grandmother Mimi (Diane Ladd), David O Russell's fragmented celebration of womanhood meets the title character following her divorce from her singer husband, Tony (Edgar Ramirez), and as she is hit by inspiration to invent the Miracle Mop.

Review by Damon Smith

IF film awards were bestowed for dogged determination and perseverance in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds, The Revenant would sweep next month's Oscars.

Mexican auteur Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu chose to shoot his sprawling historical epic in chronological order using natural light. These bold aesthetic choices limited filming to just a couple of hours each day and when Mother Nature decided to withhold snow from the unforgiving Canadian wilderness, the entire production moved to Argentina at considerable expense.

Actor Tom Hardy was forced to drop out of the comic book adventure Suicide Squad to accommodate the extended filming schedule, the budget ballooned and one crew member famously described the mood on set as "a living hell".

Trials and tribulations behind the scenes haven't tarnished Inarritu's audacious vision. Because The Revenant is a tour-de-force of technical brio and emotionally cold storytelling. It's not a journey into the heart of darkness for the sentimental or faint of heart. Explosions of violence are graphic and a horrifying bear attack early in the film unfolds in a single, unbroken take that shreds our nerves beyond repair.

Leading man Leonardo DiCaprio puts himself through the wringer for his art.

In one stomach-churning scene, the fervent vegetarian eats a wild boar's liver on camera because the role demands it.



Leonardo Di Caprio stars in the unflinching revenge drama The Revenant

He plays 19th-century explorer Hugh Glass, who guides a team of fur trappers and hunters under the command of Captain Andrew Henry (Domhnall Gleeson).

The men come under attack from Native Americans led by tribal chief Elk Dog (Duane Howard), whose daughter Powaqa (Melaw Nakoh'oo) has been kidnapped.

The interlopers flee for their lives and Glass is subsequently injured in a mauling

from a grizzly bear, which is protecting its cubs. Henry leaves behind two men, Fitzgerald (Hardy) and Bridger (Will Poulter), to tend to Glass and his son, Hawk (Forrest Goodluck), while the rest of the trappers head for safety.

Fitzgerald decides to expedite matters by killing Hawk and dragging Glass' near-lifeless body into a freshly dug grave.

The explorer regains consciousness

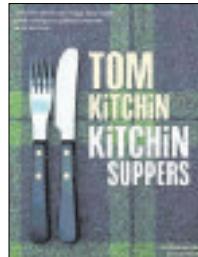
some time later and vows to hunt down the men who killed his boy.

The Revenant is a gruelling two and a half hours in the company of a filmmaker who refused to compromise. DiCaprio is mesmerising, dragging his wounded body across frozen landscapes before locking horns with Hardy's scowling rival in an adrenaline-pumped climax that leaves us gasping for air.

Book reviews

KITCHIN SUPPERS

By Tom Kitchin
Published by Quadrille
He's one of Britain's greatest chefs. His food is also among the least complicated of those who feature in Michelin's elite rankings. Tom Kitchin offers an accessible and inexpensive edge to this delightful compendium of Kitchin Suppers. Dishes like braised duck leg with orange, olives and basil, for instance, or mushroom brioche are simultaneously elegant and dazzling without being beyond the capability of most competent home cooks. Kitchin Suppers is deliciously engaging, empowering cooks with

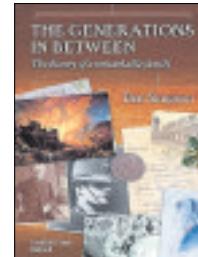


new ideas that make the most of fresh, seasonal food. Dishes like red fruit consommé are astounding both in their level of finesse and purity. Beautifully photographed and packaged.

By Andy Richardson

THE GENERATIONS IN BETWEEN

By Ben Simpson
Published by Graffiti Press
This book represents the fruits of family history research – and in this particular case the family involved had a significant role in Shropshire's industrial history. The Simpson name will be a familiar one to anyone who has ever taken an interest in the Horsehay Works. Ben's grandfather, Joseph, was chairman there for several years. Ben's father, Doseley-born Sir Joseph Simpson, was to achieve distinction as the first Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police to have risen through the

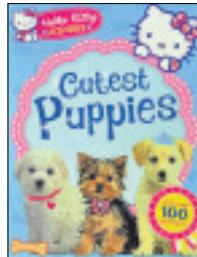


ranks. For Shropshire readers it will naturally be the chapters telling of the Shropshire links which are of most interest but Ben also tells the wider story of his ancestors across Britain.

By Toby Neal

HELLO KITTY'S CUTEST PUPPIES

Published by HarperCollins
Hello Kitty simply can't wait to introduce her fans to her fluffy canine friends in her latest interactive activity book. Kitty's 'Cutest Puppies' sticker book is crammed full of some of the snuggliest, bounciest puppies around. Help Kitty guide your new playful friends through mazes, dress them up to make them extra cute and help her to solve fun puzzles. This gorgeous sticker book is another in the Hello Kitty 'Cutest' books range. Kitty's empire just keeps on growing and growing. She has a cult following of children and grown-



ups around the world. I'm not quite sure how Kitty manages to run cafes, design jewellery, and find the time to play with her friends.

What's Kitty's secret I wonder?
By Tania Taylor

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Filming is carried out for the movie at The Dana



The Shrewsbury prison is an ideal film set, movie producers say

Closed jail to star in new feature film

FILM fans from Oswestry and Welshpool may think something looks rather familiar when they get the chance to see a forthcoming movie.

For Shrewsbury's Dana Prison is soon to be seen on the big screen after it was chosen to take on the role of a film set.

The Shrewsbury landmark has landed a leading part in a new film starring Four Weddings and a Funeral star John Hannah.

The Marker is billed as a 'noir thriller' and the prison scenes shot at the Dana are described as being central to the plot.

Andrew Cook, line producer for the film, which is directed by Justin Edgar, said the prison was the perfect setting.

He said: "It is a magnificent film location. It has got space, scale, and texture.

"It is an extremely immersive environment because it is real."

Crime

Describing the film Mr Cook said: "The lead character commits a heinous crime for which he pays and pays and pays."

Joel Campbell, of Jailhouse Tours which has been operating the prison, said he has seen interest from a number of production companies wanting to film at the building.

He said: "They came to us because we have the site up on Creative England's website so any film company looking for locations can come to us and see if it works.

"They completed two days of filming over the weekend and they used a few local extras and some students.

"For us it is a nice change and gives us a couple of days not running tours and doing something different."

Mr Cook said the film is intended for limited release in cinemas and he is excited about seeing the director's vision become a reality. He said: "It is a very dramatic thriller."

"I have known Justin as a friend and a work colleague for 15 years and this is the best thing he has written and it is a really

SPECIAL REPORT

By Naomi Penrose

tight, tense drama." Meanwhile, work is continuing on another feature length film which is also being shot in Shropshire.

The film will feature scenes at North Shropshire College in Oswestry, as well as the town's Griffin Inn pub.

Other scenes will be shot at The Venue at Park Hall and at the Queensway Stadium in Wrexham. Producer Gareth Thomas said the film, Run for Your Life, is being produced in Oswestry by Rocking Horse Studios and will look at hard hitting themes such as bullying.

"The film is set in the community and highlights the very real issue of bullying and abuse for young people," he said.

Inspired by the BBC's Sport Relief, the film shows how athletics helps the lead character, Jess, overcome her troubles.

Scenes at North Shropshire College will be used in the first official trailer spot for Oswestry's first entirely locally produced feature film. The star of the film is played by two people, Cia Whittall, 11, will play the young Jess and Christie Kelly as the older Jess. Rocking Horse Studios has been backed by The Prince's Trust to bring in the initial equipment to allow principal photography to begin on schedule.

Mr Thomas said the film will be submitted to a number of film festivals to try to secure a wider release around the country.

Meanwhile, if you are more a music fan than a film buff, looking out for award-winning musicians Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin who will be visiting Shropshire to perform their own brand of traditional songs, taking influences from legends and folklore.

The pair, who won the best duo title at the 15th Radio 2 Folk Awards at the Albert Hall in London, will be at the Willow Gallery in Oswestry on February 13 from 8pm.

Tickets are £12 adults and £6 children, available from the gallery in Willow Street or call (01691) 657575 to book.



The production team working on the new film called The Marker

Former Zutons member set to headline festival

THE former front man of one of the UK's biggest Indie bands has been unveiled as a headliner at a free Shropshire music festival.

Dave McCabe, formerly of The Zutons, will headline the Ellesmere Rocks music festival on August 27 with his band The Ramifications.

Organiser Simon Smith, from Ellesmere said the he expects the event to attract almost 1,000 people.

And he is pleased to have secured the appearance of The Ramifications at the annual event which is now in its third year.

Mr Smith said: "I have been trying to get Dave McCabe to come along for the past 12 months and I think he finally gave in to my appeals."

"The Ramifications will be headlining the event and will be on stage at 9pm."

"Their front man was from The Zutons, and he wrote Valerie which was a hit for The Zutons and also for Amy Winehouse."

The Zutons were formed in 2001 and released their first



album, Who Killed..... The Zutons? in May 2004.

They achieved their biggest hits with "Why Won't You Give Me Your Love?" and "Valerie", both taken from their second studio album Tired of Hanging Around in 2006.

Both singles reached number 9 in the UK Singles Chart.

"Valerie" was later covered by Mark Ronson, with the lead vocals provided by Amy Winehouse, who took the

song to number 2 in 2007. The Zutons released their third studio album titled You Can Do Anything in 2008. As well as touring, the band were no strangers to appearing at festivals.

In 2008, The Zutons played in Japan's Fuji Rock Festival for a third time. Also in 2008, the Zutons appeared at the Indie Festival, Jersey Live, headlining the festival along with The Prodigy.

Ellesmere Rocks is run to raise funds for Ellesmere carnival.

All proceeds from the day-long event go towards the running of the carnival.

Mr Smith added: "The carnival costs around £13,000 to run so anything we can do to help raise funds for that is a bonus. We receive a small amount of funding from Ellesmere Town Council and we raise money ourselves through the year by holding discos and children's parties."

"The music festival is a community event run by the volunteers of The Ellesmere Carnival Committee with all money going towards funding the Ellesmere Carnival."

● Photo - Former member of The Zutons Dave McCabe will be the headline act at this year's Ellesmere Rocks music festival

London City Break

London, England's capital has history stretching back to Roman times. At its centre stand the imposing Houses of Parliament, the iconic 'Big Ben' clock tower and Westminster Abbey, site of British monarch coronations. Across the Thames, the London Eye observation wheel provides panoramic views of the South Bank cultural complex, and the entire city.

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Classified Ads


The Getaway Car
6.50pm

Dermot O'Leary gives five more contestant duos a chance to put their nerves, driving and communication skills to the test on the Getaway Car circuit in South Africa. The winners will claim a £10,000 cash prize and the title of Getaway Champions.


QI XL
9.35pm

Panelists Julia Zemiro, Matt Lucas and David Mitchell and Alan Davies compete, as Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the comedy quiz show. In this edition, the host meditates on matters medieval and macabre, and as usual, points are awarded for the answers he finds most interesting.


Take Me Out
8pm

Paddy McGuinness invites four more men to try their hands at winning a date with one of his 30 single ladies. This time, the would-be suitors are James, a caravan salesman from Skegness, London-based fireman David, Milton Keynes plumber Sam and Al, an American car fanatic and musician.


Channel 4 Racing
1.30pm

Nick Luck presents live coverage of seven races. From Ascot, races start at 1.50, 2.25, 3.00 and 3.35. From Haydock Park at 2.05, 2.40 and 3.15. Commentary and analysis by Simon Holt, Graham Cunningham and Tanya Stevenson, with reports by Emma Spencer and Tom Lee.


The Championship: Football League Tonight
9pm

Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's matches in the second tier of English football, including Queens Park Rangers v Wolverhampton Wanderers at Loftus Road and Birmingham City v Ipswich Town at St Andrew's.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast.
10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. Tom Kitchin and Cyrus Todiwala join James Martin in the studio, where they subject radio DJ Sara Cox to food heaven or hell. Jane Parkinson is on hand with the wine tips.
11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts. The chef focuses on home-grown and seasonal produce.
12.00 BBC News; Weather.
12.10 Football Focus. Dan Walker and guests review the week's action and look ahead to forthcoming fixtures, which include Arsenal v Chelsea and Crystal Palace v Tottenham Hotspur in the Premier League.
12.50 Saturday Sportsday. A look ahead at the day's events.
1.00 Tennis: Australian Open. Action from the grand slam tournament at Melbourne Park, Australia.
2.00 Live International Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. Coverage of the semi-final matches in the Open Singles tournament, at the Potters Leisure Resort in Hopton-on-Sea, Norfolk.
4.30 Final Score. A round-up of this afternoon's football results.
5.10 Now You See It. Highlights from the magic world, including tricks by Troy and Dynamo.
5.40 BBC News.
5.50 Midlands Today; Weather.
6.00 Pointless Celebrities. Soap stars Joe Swash and John Altman, Nick Pickard and Ali Bastian, Victoria Bush and Zaraah Abrahams, and Sharon Maughan and Tina Hobley take part in the unorthodox quiz show.
6.50 The Getaway Car. Brothers Mitz and Dee, husband-and-wife duo Charlie and Kate, best friends Chloe and Bethany, sisters Val and Babs and new couple Joseph and Karen tackle the Getaway Car circuit.
7.45 The Voice UK. The spinning-chair singing contest continues, as Paloma Faith, Boy George, Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson appraise more hopeful stars in the third of seven "blind auditions".
9.05 Casualty. An office worker makes use of her stay in hospital to get her own back on her prankster colleague, and Noel mistakenly believes Big Mac saved him from a vicious mugger.
9.55 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin presents as the all-important winning numbers are revealed.
10.05 BBC News; Weather.
10.25 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League games, including West Ham United v Manchester City and Crystal Palace v Tottenham Hotspur; **National Lottery Update.**
11.55 FILM: Lara Croft: Tomb Raider – The Cradle of Life (2003). The daredevil heroine hunts for Pandora's Box before an evil scientist finds it and uses it as a deadly weapon. Action adventure sequel, starring Angelina Jolie and Gerard Butler.
1.45 Weather for the Week Ahead.
1.50 BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Race to Super Bowl 50. Highlights of the latest NFL fixtures. (R)
6.55 FILM: Animal Farm (1954). Animated drama, with the voice of Maurice Denham.
8.05 FILM: Bye Bye Birdie (1963). A songwriter tries to organise a final show for a rock 'n' roll singer who is about to be drafted into the US army. Musical, starring Dick Van Dyke, Jesse Pearson and Janet Leigh.
9.55 FILM: Race to Witch Mountain (2009). Sci-fi adventure, starring Dwayne Johnson.
11.30 Island Stories. BBC World Service reporters profile six culturally diverse islands.
12.00 James Martin: Home Comforts. Lesley Waters guests. (R)
12.45 James Martin: Home Comforts. With former Formula One racing driver Sir Stirling Moss. (R)
1.30 FILM: Day of the Evil Gun (1968). Western, starring Glenn Ford.
3.00 FILM: 4 for Texas (1963). Comedy Western, starring Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra.
4.50 Flog It! From Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex. (R)
5.50 Victorian Bakers. The bakers move onto 1900 and sample work in an elegant high-street shop. Last in the series. (R)
6.50 Dad's Army. Sergeant Wilson is appointed manager of the Eastgate branch of the bank. Comedy, starring John Le Mesurier. (R)
7.20 FILM: War Horse (2011). A horse travels across the battlefields of the First World War, while the original owner searches for it. Steven Spielberg's drama, with Jeremy Irvine and Tom Hiddleston.
9.35 QI XL. Panelists Julia Zemiro, Matt Lucas and David Mitchell and Alan Davies compete, as host Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the comedy quiz show.
10.20 Insert Name Here. Jennifer Saunders, Romesh Ranganathan, Jessica Hynes and Suzannah Lipscomb join captains Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe to answer questions about famous people who share a name. (R)
10.50 Live at the Apollo. Mock the Week host Dara O Briain compères an evening of stand-up at London's Hammersmith Apollo, performing himself and introducing routines by guests Zoe Lyons and Paul Chowdhry. (R)
11.35 International Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. Action from the semi-final matches in the Open Singles tournament, at the Potters Leisure Resort in Hopton-on-Sea, Norfolk.
12.35 FILM: Walkabout (1971). An orphaned sister and brother stranded in the Outback are led across the wilderness by an Aboriginal boy. Nicolas Roeg's drama, with Jenny Agutter, Lucien John and David Gulpilil.
2.15 FILM: East of Sudan (1964). Adventure, with Anthony Quayle.
3.45 This Is BBC2. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC2.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge
6.25 Pat & Stan **6.35 Dino Dan** **6.45 Dino Dan** **7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story** **7.05 Sooty** **7.15 Super 4 Scrambled!** **Scrambled!**
7.30 Scrambled! **Mr Bean: The Animated Series.** (R)
7.50 Scrambled! **Horrid Henry.** Cartoon about a mischievous youngster. (R)
8.10 Scrambled! **Nerds & Monsters.** Animated comedy.
8.30 Scrambled! **Thunderbirds Are Go.** A modern remake of the classic 1960s adventure series. Last in the series.
9.05 Scrambled! **The Tom & Jerry Show.** Cat and mouse adventures. (R)
9.25 ITV News.
9.30 Murder, She Wrote. Jessica is disturbed by a psychic's predictions. (R)
10.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. The host takes his successful talk show state-side.
11.15 The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
12.15 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
12.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
1.25 Judge Rinder. Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R)
2.25 Tipping Point. Game show, hosted by Ben Shephard. (R)
3.30 Doc Martin. A stomach bug sweeps through Portwenn. (R)
4.30 The Martin Lewis Money Show. How to boost a person's credit score. (R)
5.00 The Saturday Night Story. Part two of two. Comedy duos, impressionists and music shows. (R)
6.00 ITV News Central; Weather.
6.15 ITV News and Weather.
6.30 New You've Been Framed! More comical mishaps submitted for approval by viewers, including a baby vomiting on a laptop, a boy's encounter with an explosive egg, and a dog that takes a shine to a teddy bear.
7.00 Ninja Warrior UK. Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara host the final heat, as competitors from across the UK test their strength, speed and courage in the obstacle-course challenge.
8.00 Take Me Out. A caravan salesman from Skegness, a London-based fireman, a plumber from Milton Keynes and an American musician seek to win the approval of Paddy McGuinness's 30 single women.
9.15 The Jonathan Ross Show. US actor John Krasinski, actress and comedienne Catherine Tate and Scottish stand-up star Kevin Bridges join Jonathan in the studio, and Rudimental perform live.
10.15 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
10.30 FILM: The Chronicles of Riddick (2004). A galactic fugitive fleeing from bounty hunters battles a sinister cult intent on killing or converting anyone in their way. Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Vin Diesel.
12.35 Jackpot247.
3.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R)
3.50 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R)
6.40 The King of Queens. (R)
7.05 International Snowdon Race. Action from the 10-mile race staged in 2015.
8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. Part one of three. Marie gives Debra the silent treatment. (R)
8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. Part two of three. Marie and Debra's feud continues. (R)
9.00 The Morning Line. Nick Luck presents a look ahead to this afternoon's racing at Ascot.
10.00 Frasier. Part one of two. A bout of back pain has unexpected consequences. (R)
10.30 Frasier. Part two of two. Niles clashes with girlfriend Mel. (R)
11.00 The Big Bang Theory. Sheldon loses his job. (R)
11.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R)
12.00 The Big Bang Theory. Penny hosts a Halloween party. (R)
12.25 The Simpsons. Homer becomes an inventor. (R)
12.55 The Simpsons. Bart looks after a bird's nest filled with eggs. (R)
1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ascot and Haydock Park.
4.00 Come Dine with Me. Council manager Charlotte hosts the first party in Llanelli, Carmarthenshire. (R)
4.30 Come Dine with Me. The second night of the competition in Llanelli, Carmarthenshire. (R)
5.00 Come Dine with Me. Occupational nurse Christine hosts the third dinner party in Llanelli. (R)
5.35 Come Dine with Me. Retired teacher Meic hosts the fourth night of the competition in Llanelli. (R)
6.05 Come Dine with Me. It is the final day of the competition in Llanelli and teaching assistant Ainsley wants to educate her guests, while serving up an authentic Russian-themed dinner party. (R)
6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy West and Prunella Scales go in search of the lost route between London and the sea, a journey that gives them the chance to revisit their own past. (R)
8.00 The Girl Who Forgave the Nazis. Documentary investigating the wider impact of Holocaust survivor Eva Kor's decision to forgive Oskar Groening, the 93-year-old former Nazi who once worked as a clerk at Auschwitz.
9.00 FILM: Oblivion (2013). Premiere. A repairman salvaging resources from a devastated future Earth discovers a secret that threatens the human race. Sci-fi adventure, starring Tom Cruise and Morgan Freeman.
11.30 FILM: Priest (2011). A holy man in a post-apocalyptic future breaks his vows to the church and sets out to rescue his niece from vampires. Fantasy thriller, with Paul Bettany and Karl Urban.
1.10 Hollyoaks. (R)
3.15 Undercover Boss Canada. (R)
4.05 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R)
5.00 Deal or No Deal. (R)
5.50 How I Met Your Mother. (R)

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig **6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas** **6.15 Bob the Builder** **6.30 Ticky Toc** **6.40 Zack and Quack** **6.50 Roobarb and Custard Too** **7.00 Make Way for Noddy** **7.10 Paw Patrol** **7.25 Little Princess** **7.35 Pip Ahoy!** **7.50 Blaze and the Monster Machines** **8.15 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom** **8.30 Wanda and the Alien** **8.45 Toby's Travelling Circus**
8.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R)
9.30 The Saturday Show.
11.30 Police Interceptors. (R)
12.25 Police Interceptors. A speeding driver is clocked at over 140mph. (R)
1.25 Police Interceptors. Dan Briggingshaw tracks down a driver who has given him the slip in Spalding. (R)
2.25 Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud. Clips of foul-mouthed parrots and a water-skiing squirrel. (R)
3.25 Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. Another selection of the most popular videos featuring dogs. (R)
4.20 Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. A compilation of the internet's most popular cat videos. (R)
5.20 5 News Weekend.
5.25 Nightmare Tenants, Sium Landlords. A landlord discovers a couple are subletting his house. (R)
6.20 Ice Road Truckers. (R)
7.05 World War II in Colour. This edition looks at Hitler's plans to push his forces into the Soviet Union, beginning with the launch of Operation Barbarossa in the summer of 1941. (R)
8.00 World War II Battlefield Recovery. Excavation experts set out to retrieve Second World War relics from the war-zones of the Eastern Front, telling the stories of fallen soldiers by examining their remains.
9.00 The Championship: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's matches in the second tier of English football, including Queens Park Rangers v Wolverhampton Wanderers.
10.00 Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present all the goals from League One and League Two, where fixtures included Burton Albion v Shrewsbury Town and Bristol Rovers v Plymouth Argyle.
10.30 Celebrity Big Brother. Highlights of the famous housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to living alongside one another.
11.30 Lip Sync Battle UK: Rufus Hound v Jorgie Porter. Melanie Brown and Professor Green present the musical game show as comedian Rufus Hound and actress Jorgie Porter go head to head lip-synching to a hit song. (R)
12.00 SuperCasino.
3.10 Celebrity Big Brother. (R)
4.00 Celebrity Big Brother: Flirts, Friends & More. (R)
4.50 House Doctor. (R)
5.20 House Doctor. (R)
5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)
5.50 Angels of Jarm. (R)


War & Peace
9pm

Natasha agrees to Andrei's father's demands that they have a lengthy engagement, but encounters temptation during her fiance's long absence. Countess Rostova and Anna both try to find wealthy wives for their sons, but Nikolai and Boris have their own plans for the future.


Dragons' Den
8pm

Evan Davis gives another group of would-be entrepreneurs the chance to impress panelists Deborah Meaden, Nick Jenkins, Peter Jones, Touker Suleyman and Sarah Willingham with their business ideas. Products featured in the show include a portable drum kit that does not need drums.


Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands
7pm

The future of the Shieldlands is decided, as the various leaders gather in the great hall of Herot to choose their new leader. Rheda faces the possibility of civil war between the tribes tearing the country apart, and may have to fight to preserve her power.


Walking the Himalayas
8pm

Levison Wood and guide Binod Pariyar face a 30-mile trek through the jungles of Eastern Nepal, with no roads and few people to tell them they are heading in the right direction. Their journey comes to an end in Bhutan, a country rarely visited by foreigners, where they visit a holy mountain.


Labyrinth
5.05pm

A teenager wishes her baby brother would be taken away, only to have her request granted by a band of goblins and their sinister king. She regrets her decision and sets out to rescue him. Jim Henson's fantasy adventure, starring Jennifer Connelly and David Bowie.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast.
7.30 **Match of the Day**. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League games, including West Ham United v Manchester City and Crystal Palace v Tottenham Hotspur. (R)
9.00 **The Andrew Marr Show**.
10.00 **The Big Questions**. Nicky Campbell presents moral and religious discussions on topical issues from Leith Academy, Edinburgh.
11.00 **Sunday Politics West Midlands**. The week's events at Westminster, presented by Andrew Neil. Including a regional round-up.
12.15 **Bargain Hunt**. From Ardingly, West Sussex. (R)
1.00 **BBC News**; Weather.
1.15 **Homes Under the Hammer**. Lucy Alexander and Martin Roberts visit a two-bedroom bungalow in Darlington, Co Durham, a plot of land in Kent and a mid-terrace property in Greater Manchester. (R)
2.15 **Flog It!** From Wellington College in Berkshire. (R)
3.00 **The Truth About Sugar**. In the first of four documentaries focusing on health matters, Fiona Phillips finds out what sugar does to the body by enlisting four volunteers to reduce their intake. (R)
4.00 **Escape to the Country**. Searching for a property in Devon. (R)
4.30 **Songs of Praise**. Recovering addicts reveal how faith has helped them.
5.05 **BBC News**.
5.30 **Countryfile**. Ellie Harrison and Matt Baker visit North Devon.
6.20 **Midlands Today**; Weather.
6.30 **Attenborough & the Giant Dinosaur**. David Attenborough visits the site where bones from the largest known dinosaur were discovered, and investigates efforts to reconstruct what the creature looked like.
7.30 **Still Open All Hours**. Granville tries to prove the erotic power of salami and sell some damaged tins of chilli beans, while Cyril and Eric seek advice on how to impress their wives. Last in the series.
8.00 **Call the Midwife**. Barbara faces the biggest test of her career. Nurse Crane learns to speak Spanish, and Sister Evangelina helps a woman with breastfeeding, leading to unforeseen consequences.
9.00 **War & Peace**. Natasha encounters temptation during Andrei's absence. Countess Rostova and Anna both try to find wealthy wives for their sons, and Pierre grows frustrated with married life. **BBC News**.
10.20 **Midlands Today**; Weather.
10.30 **Match of the Day 2**. Mark Chapman reviews the day's two Premier League fixtures, which were Arsenal v Chelsea at the Emirates Stadium and Everton v Swansea City at Goodison Park.
11.30 **Film: Private Peaceful (2012)**. Premiere. Drama based on Michael Morpurgo's novel, starring Jack O'Connell and George MacKay.
1.05 **Weather for the Week Ahead**. **BBC News**.

BBC2

6.30 **The A to Z of TV Gardening**. Carol Kirkwood looks at subjects beginning with the letter J. (R)
7.15 **Monty Don's Italian Gardens**. The horticulturist concludes his journey in the north of Italy, where he explores gardens in the Veneto region, Lucca and Lake Maggiore. Last in the series.
8.15 **Countryfile**. Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison explore Gloucestershire, visiting an arboretum and a birds of prey centre. Plus, Josh Widdicombe visits a Welsh campsite that holds special memories. (R)
9.15 **Saturday Kitchen Best Bites**. James Martin presents highlights of the series, recalling his favourite moments from previous years in the kitchen.
10.45 **James Martin: Home Comforts**. The chef cooks in his own kitchen. (R)
11.30 **James Martin: Home Comforts**. With guest Camilla Dallerup. Last in the series. (R)
12.15 **MOTD2 Extra**. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team.
1.00 **Tennis: Australian Open Highlights**. Action from day seven at the Grand Slam tournament.
2.00 **Live International Bowls**. The World Indoor Championships. Coverage of the final in the Men's Singles tournament, at the Potters Leisure Resort in Hopton-on-Sea, Norfolk.
5.15 **Ski Sunday**. Action from the World Cup meeting at Kitzbuhel.
6.00 **Film: Real Steel (2011)**. A washed-up former boxer and his son restore an abandoned robot to compete in championship bouts between fighting machines. Sci-fi drama, starring Hugh Jackman and Dakota Goyo. Edited for daytime broadcast.
8.00 **Dragons' Den**. Would-be entrepreneurs pitch their money-making ideas to the panel, with plans for a portable drum kit that does not need drums and an inflatable tanning tent. With Evan Davis.
9.00 **James May's Cars of the People**. New series. The former Top Gear presenter examines how the car industry in Germany and Japan blossomed following the Second World War, while Britain's own manufacturers struggled.
10.00 **Film: Blood Diamond (2006)**. A smuggler helps a fisherman find his missing son in war-torn Sierra Leone, in return for a rare pink diamond. Action thriller, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Djimon Hounsou.
12.10 **Film: Heist (2001)**. A thief is blackmailed into pulling off a robbery, and also suspects his wife is planning to leave him. David Mamet's thriller, with Gene Hackman, Danny DeVito and Rebecca Pidgeon.
1.55 **Sign Zone: Countryfile**. Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison explore Gloucestershire, visiting an arboretum and a birds of prey centre. Plus, Josh Widdicombe visits a Welsh campsite that holds special memories. (R)
2.50 **Sign Zone: Holy City**. (R)
3.50 **This Is BBC2**. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC2.

ITV

6.00 **CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge**
6.25 **Pat & Stan** **6.35** **Dino Dan** **6.45** **Dino Dan** **7.00** **Signed Stories: Share a Story** **7.05** **Sooty** **7.15** **Super 4**
7.30 **Scrambled!** **Scrambled!** Two hours of children's fun.
7.35 **Scrambled!** **Mr Bean: The Animated Series**. Chaotic cartoon capers, voiced by Rowan Atkinson. (R)
7.50 **Scrambled!** **Horrid Henry**. Cartoon about a mischievous youngster. (R)
8.10 **Scrambled!** **Nerds & Monsters**. Animated comedy.
8.30 **Scrambled!** **Bear Grylls Survival School**. Children are taught to survive in the wild.
9.05 **Scrambled!** **The Tom & Jerry Show**. Cat and mouse adventures. (R)
9.25 **ITV News**.
9.30 **Murder, She Wrote**. Grady's wedding is disrupted by a murder. (R)
10.25 **The Jeremy Kyle Show**. Guests air their differences. (R)
11.30 **The Jeremy Kyle Show**. Guests air their differences. (R)
12.30 **ITV News and Weather**.
12.40 **The Jeremy Kyle Show**. Guests air their differences. (R)
1.39 **ITV Central Weather**.
1.40 **River Monsters**. A freshwater giant said to inhabit Russia's remote Amur River. (R)
2.10 **Ninja Warrior UK**. The final heat of the obstacle-course challenge gets underway. (R)
3.15 **Film: On Her Majesty's Secret Service (1969)**. James Bond adventure, starring George Lazenby.
6.00 **ITV News Central**; Weather.
6.15 **ITV News and Weather**.
6.30 **Planet's Got Talent**. New series. The best and worst clips from the global Got Talent franchise, featuring blindfolded sword-swallowing and a group of stuntmen crashing a bus. Narrated by Warwick Davis.
7.00 **Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands**. A new leader is to be chosen as Herot faces being torn apart by civil war between the tribes, leaving Rheda faced with the possibility of fighting to remain in power.
8.00 **Endeavour**. The detective considers his future while protecting the wife of his former mentor, while a murder in the world of fashion stirs up old gangland conflicts. Last in the series.
10.00 **ITV News and Weather**; Weather.
10.15 **The Day Hitler Died**. Documentary exploring the fuhrer's final hours in his Berlin bunker as Russian forces closed in, featuring previously unseen interviews with eyewitnesses, recorded in 1948.
11.15 **Perspectives: Bruce Forsyth on Sammy Davis Jr.** The veteran entertainer explores the life and work of the US singer, dancer and actor who emerged from the dying days of vaudeville and rose to superstardom. (R)
12.15 **Jackpot247**. Interactive gaming.
3.00 **ITV Nightscreen**. Text-based information service.
5.05 **The Jeremy Kyle Show**. (R)

Channel 4

6.15 **How I Met Your Mother**. Ted and Barney get into a fight at MacLaren's. (R)
6.40 **The King of Queens**. Doug and Carrie meet their neighbours. (R)
7.05 **The King of Queens**. Doug's cousin loses his job. (R)
7.30 **Everybody Loves Raymond**. (R)
7.55 **Everybody Loves Raymond**. Robert joins a cult. (R)
8.30 **Everybody Loves Raymond**. Debra decides to see a marriage counsellor. (R)
9.00 **Frasier**. The Cranes take a trip in the Winnebago. (R)
9.30 **Sunday Brunch**. With guests Charlotte Ritchie, Ray Mears and Rachel Platten.
12.30 **George Clarke's Amazing Spaces**. George meets a young man who bought a 70-year-old boat. (R)
1.30 **Location, Location, Location**. Expectant parents relocating to the countryside around Stratford-upon-Avon. (R)
2.35 **The Big Bang Theory**. Leonard accompanies Amy to a colleague's wedding. (R)
3.00 **The Big Bang Theory**. Penny arranges a date for Raj. (R)
3.30 **The Simpsons**. Marge buys a tandem. (R)
4.00 **The Simpsons**. Lisa goes on a rampage through school. (R)
4.30 **Marvel's Agents of SHIELD**. The team tries to rescue Simmons.
5.30 **Channel 4 News**.
6.00 **Film: Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (2009)**. Nightwatchman Larry and his living museum-exhibit friends must stop a reanimated pharaoh from taking over the world. Fantasy comedy sequel, starring Ben Stiller and Amy Adams.
8.00 **Walking the Himalayas**. Levison Wood's journey ends in Bhutan, but first he and guide Binod Pariyar must trek through 30 miles of jungle in Eastern Nepal. Last in the series.
9.00 **Deutschland 83**. The bug in Linda's desk is discovered, and Moritz is given two options – persuade the secretary to defect or kill her. Alex turns to Tischbirek following an argument with his father.
10.00 **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown**. Sean Lock and Rob Beckett compete against Jon Richardson and Cariad Lloyd in the comedy panel show, while Jamie Laing helps out in Dictionary Corner. (R)
11.05 **Film: 48 Hrs (1982)**. A hard-bitten cop temporarily releases a fast-talking criminal from prison to help him track down two escaped fugitives. Comedy thriller, starring Nick Nolte and Eddie Murphy.
12.50 **Embarrassing Bodies: Back to the Clinic**. (R)
1.45 **Come Dine with Me**. (R)
2.15 **Come Dine with Me**. (R)
2.40 **Come Dine with Me**. (R)
3.10 **Come Dine with Me**. (R)
3.40 **Come Dine with Me**. (R)
4.05 **Undercover Boss USA**. (R)
5.00 **Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites**. (R)
5.10 **Deal or No Deal**. (R)

8.55 **5 News Weekend**.
9.00 **Celebrity Big Brother**. The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt.
10.00 **Celebrity Botched Up Bodies**. Leading surgeons repair household names damaged by cosmetic surgery.
10.55 **Film: Mr & Mrs Smith (2005)**. Married assassins are hired to kill each other – a situation that restores some much-needed excitement to their relationship. Comedy adventure, with Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.
1.10 **SuperCasino**. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10 **Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun**. The documentary following Brits who moved to Spain to focus on former miner Tad from Yorkshire, who owns a handful of hostels across Benidorm. (R)
4.00 **House Doctor**. A converted brewery lodge in the East End of London. (R)
4.25 **House Doctor**. Selling a two-bedroom flat in Hammersmith. (R)
4.50 **House Doctor**. Ann Maurice and Alistair Appleton help a Northamptonshire woman spruce up her country cottage in the village of Welton, hoping to entice a buyer to part with £250,000. (R)
5.20 **House Doctor**. A Victorian house in Norwich. (R)



CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094



St Mary's Church at Knockin is described as a 'small and friendly' church



The church has interesting features



The Rev Helen Morby outside St Mary's Church in Knockin

Church is vital to community

THE pulpit and lectern were carved by local carpenter Thomas Harris in 1910.

The church organ has been played by the same family ever since it was installed in 1907.

There is a real sense of a close-knit community around St Mary's Church in Knockin, near Oswestry.

"It's a small, friendly village church," says the Rev Helen Morby, who has been priest in charge for the past four years.

"It's a very small community, and people support one another; everyone is very caring," she says.

The village of Knockin, or Cnukyn as it was historically known, takes its name from the Welsh for "a small hillock", and the church is thought to be the oldest remaining building in the community.

It was probably established as a chapel to Knockin Castle – all that remains of the fortress is a tree-covered mound of earth – and was built between 1182 and 1195 by Ralph l'Estrange, under the patronage of Haughmond Abbey.

However, that would be to tell only part of

Report by Mark Andrews

the story. The church was extensively rebuilt in 1846, and much of the church's appeal lies in the way that the original Norman features have been incorporated into the 19th century building.

Take the arched stonework of the old north arcade, which has been attractively blended in with the simple plastered wall of the nave, with the windows carefully styled to reflect the medieval features.

Another distinctive feature is the slim pointed tower, which manages to look out of proportion with the rest of the church, yet quite enchanting at the same time.

Helen, a 53-year-old mother-of-two, says she is particularly fond of the spacious area around the altar. "It is really nice for our smaller services, we had a prayer meeting here and we all sat together," she says.

At the moment, St Mary's is trying to raise £50,000 for essential repairs.

"The big job that really needs to be done is the repointing of the stonework outside," says Helen.



A warm welcome awaits all at the village church



The village church's site is steeped in history



The church is thought to be the oldest remaining building in the community

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LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416795

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, brown eyes, generous curves, would love to spend cosy nights in with that special male. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417985

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, romantic, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and kisses. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417341

KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, holidays etc, WLTM male for mutual companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420601

CATHY, 42, good looking blonde with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, chats, romance and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420175

TARA 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTM very appreciative confident male for adult fun. Contact me anytime. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414701

FEMALE, dark haired 5'10, curvy, likes reading, walking, cinema, seeks male 40-50 for lasting relationship. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 507745PROFESSIONAL, black female age 52, enjoys evenings and days out, would like to meet similar Midlands male. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 507901

CATHY, 42, good looking blonde with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, chats, romance and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420175

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418277

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414773

KIRSTEN, 36, attractive, blonde and very bored, seeking open-minded decent male for fun/friendship, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419383

VAL 41, pretty, cuddly, friendly, seeks similar fun loving male for an uncomplicated no strings relationship. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419695

LADY Penelope seeks her very own Parker (47-58) to go on a voyage of discovery and romance. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 4550237

DEBBIE, 29, looking for mature professional fun guy, 40-50 to spend good times with. Call me, you have nothing to lose. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416287

FEMALE fun blonde, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416287

CHRIS, 40, attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420491

SOPHIA young 40ys, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399

SALLY, 24ys tall blonde with feminine curves seeks mature older chap, 35+ for discreet fun only, must be experienced. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box: 420247

LOUISE, 47, youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. Tel: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420445

SALLY, 24ys tall blonde with feminine curves seeks mature older chap, 35+ for discreet fun only, must be experienced. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3028 Box: 420247

ALEXA 49 - slim, attractive, long-haired music loving female, with many interests including dancing, the arts, photography WLTM similar male. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 5345662

YVONNE, single mum, happy with life, but would like to meet someone to share fun times with. Tel: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420269

LOUISE, pretty hairdresser, works long hours, finds it hard to meet a boyfriend, 34ys, own flat. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 4192572

CHLOE pretty single female 36ys, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for reliable discreet male for mutual companionship maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420359

JENNI, single mum seeks single dad, own home, can accommodate and loves spoiling her man. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 415108

JULIE, 47, blonde brown eyes, size 12, varied interests, loves cuddling, kissing and showing affection, seeks similar energetic male friend for TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420357

ANN, 38, very attractive female, N/S, positive attitude to life, WLTM similar kind male with a lot of get up and go for romance and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420355

JACKIE lonely and looking for male company, 48-65. Need a bit of love and affection? Then I'm your girl, call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418169

SARAH, curvaceous blonde, 35, passionate nature, solvent, OHAC, WLTM date again, looking for male to take me out. Looks/Age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420207

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416795

LOU, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTM a lady between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind, caring and funny to mend my broken heart, someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for cosy nights in. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419855

FEMALE, seeks fun loving male who likes a drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences with a curvy blonde. Discretion guaranteed. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 5079311MAGGIE, 72 yrs young, good sense of humour, well presented, WLTM kind, sincere chappie to share coffee and a chat. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 531040

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun times with older male for romantic nights in and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 4204043

39 yr old independent single Mom, knows the benefit of having a good man in the picture. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 5084796

FRANCES, 45, busty female, loves night in/out, seeking uncomplicated male who can occupy my free time for quality companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420030

FEMALE, seeks fun loving male who likes a drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences with a curvy blonde. Discretion guaranteed. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 5079311

MARY, pretty, friendly, lots of fun, lives in Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opera, ballet, WLTM a lovely, charming, funny, genuine guy, 30s, to settle down with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419883

LOU, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTM a lady between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind, caring and funny to mend my broken heart, someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for cosy nights in. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419855

SENSES medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, OHAC, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415429

ATTRACTION professional lady, widow, 50's, likes walking, sight seeing, theatre, meals out, seeks genuine, professional gent, 5ft 9ins plus to make life more enjoyable. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 4186165

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416795

TRACY, slim attractive cheerful blonde, enjoys aromatherapy/massage, looking for male who appreciates a feminine, sensual lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417787

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, OHAC, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 4186165

BROKEN hearted lady 39 seeks loving male to mend heart age 39/40. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 417807LONELY and broken male seeks female to show me what love is. **Text only to Mailbox** no: 5345658

VERY useful, attractive 58 yr old, OHAC, six foot tall, nice build, n/s, genuine, tactile fit and spouse, looking for a women for nights in and out. Tel: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420135

ADVENTUROUS 35 yr old, slim, dark hair, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 5077442

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WIDOW 50, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415767

MARIE, 43, fair blue-eyed blonde, fit and active, seeks similar male to have a laugh with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419417

LISA 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a man who will appreciate a feminine, fashionable, fun, romantic sensual woman with a mind of her own. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419839

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SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, sensual, active, no ties, WLTM kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418277

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418277

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419385

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, bubbly blonde, seeks male, any age, any area, for discreet night times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418117

CAROL Ann, sensitive slim blonde very romantic seeks tall handsome male for fun, friendship and lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419421

JO 55, curvy redhead, loves eating out, theatre, travel looking for middle-aged prince charming to sweep me off my feet. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418369

GENUINE lady looking for genuine male, age 55-66 for a meaningful relationship. I am very sincere and honest. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418445

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418277

TOM 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418277

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419473

SHROPSHIRE male, 50, tall, dark, attractive, fun loving, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 342129

TALL attractive Shrewsbury male, 54, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement in the daytime. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 342129

COLIN 48, seeks cuddly large big beautiful woman 45 to 55 for LTR, love, friendship, hopefully likes cuddles, kisses, holding hands. Tel only to Mailbox no: 5308886

52YRS old guy genuine down to earth looking for Mrs right for nights in and out, walking, cooking, loves life to the full. Text only to Mailbox no: 5331215

ATTRACTIVE, fit, sporty, tactile, youthful black male seek relationship with lady. N/S. Text only to Mailbox no: 4851641

WIDOWER, quiet, easygoing, slim, 5ft 7 tall, smart, varied interests, seeks slim/lady, 50 to 65 yrs for caring relationship. Text only to Mailbox no: 4906469

STEVE 59, 5ft 9ins, medium build, likes walking, seeks female, slim-medium build, single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 341387

6FT well built guy, nicely groomed looking for fun intimate nights or day with slim/medium build attractive lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419975

COLIN 48, seeks cuddly large big beautiful woman 45 to 55 for LTR, love, friendship, hopefully likes cuddles, kisses, holding hands. Tel only to Mailbox no: 5308886

ALAN 56, tall year old builder, muscular build, five foot ten, fit, likes the gym, pubs, clubs and days out, seeks female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419975

6FT well built guy, nicely groomed looking for fun intimate nights or day with slim/medium build attractive lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419975

ATTRACTIVE, fit, sporty, tactile, youthful black male seek relationship with lady. N/S. Text only to Mailbox no: 4851641

WIDOWER, quiet, easygoing, slim, 5ft 7 tall, smart, varied interests, seeks slim/lady, 50 to 65 yrs for caring relationship. Text only to Mailbox no: 4906469

TIM, easygoing honest male, discreet, uninhibited, seeks similar non-conformist averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65. Notts. Tel: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 375065

SUBMISSIVE 44 year old WLTM dominant female 25-30 years who enjoys role play with friendship and maybe possible relationship. Text only to Mailbox no: 5084114

GAY Singles

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BI curious male, slim, fit, looking for weekdays fun, looking for someone to show me the ropes, 45 to 65. Text only to Mailbox no: 537887

DIVORCED male, young 50, own home/business, seeking Asian or East European male 18-25, I'm a generous guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420537

MIKE male, divorced, own home/business, young 51, seeks male, 19-50, any nationality for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 375957

BI male, young 50, divorced, own home/business, seeks male, 18-45 for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 384775

SINGLE gay male early 60s WLTM gay/bi/CD male late 20s to early 40s for good times and friendship. Gloucestershire. Text only to mailbox no: 4671184

MATURE gent, GSOH, sincere, many interests, WLTM a younger male, 20-40, for friendship, can accommodate. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420405

LUKE 60's, seeking young Asian friend, 20-30's to socialise with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414841

MODERN young at heart lonely lady, 70's, likes trips out, holidays, seeking similar lady for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410215

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LUKE 60's, seeking young Asian friend, 20-30's to socialise with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414841

MODERN young at heart lonely lady, 70's, likes trips out, holidays, seeking similar lady for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410215

deaths

CAIN

Briget Anne
nee Cotter

Of Bomere Heath, formerly of Harlescott. Much loved Mum of Emmaleen, Louisa and Andrew, loving Nana to Grace, Mia, Sebastian, William and Matthew. Passed away peacefully on January 9, 2016, aged 62 years.

A Service celebrating Bridget's life will take place at Shrewsbury Crematorium on Friday, January 29, at 1.15pm.

Colourful clothing welcome.

Family flowers only please, however all kind donations will support the work of The Critical Care Unit at The Royal Stoke Hospital and The NSPCC.

All inquiries please to

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DRAPE

Betty

Of Claydon, Ensdon House. Beloved Wife of the late Brian, loving and much loved Mother to Robert, Christina, Peter and their Families, passed away peacefully on January 9, 2016.

There will be a Ceremony of Thanksgiving and Remembrance for Betty in Holy Trinity Binton Church, Binton, on Tuesday, January 26, at 11.30am.

Family flowers only please, however your very kind donations will be divided between Hope House Children's Hospice and St Chad's Church, Montford.

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WALKER
Malcolm John
(Mel)

Of Longden Road. Much loved Husband of Barbara, devoted Dad to Ben, Tom and Sophie, darling Grandad Mel to William, Ellie and Olivia and a dear Friend to many. Taken suddenly on January 7, 2016, aged 64 years. Will be missed and never forgotten.

A Service celebrating Mel's life will take place at Shrewsbury Cricket Club, London Road, Shrewsbury on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, at 1pm, followed by private Interment.

Family flowers only, however your very kind donations will support the incredible Trauma Team at The Royal Stoke University Hospital.

All inquiries please to

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WHITEHEAD

Patrick John
(Pat)

Of Oswestry.

Passed away peacefully on January 9, 2016, aged 83 years.

Beloved Husband of the late Beth, loving Father of Gill, Sue and Anne and a much loved Grandad and Great-Grandad.

Memorial Service at Oswestry Methodist Church, on Friday, January 29, at 2pm.

Family flowers only but donations if desired to The Silver Line and the Severn Hospice, Shrewsbury.

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SIMPLY CLEVER

Salute to McLaren F1

According to its creator, Gordon Murray, the McLaren F1 was "an attempt to build the best engineered driver's car ever made."

It was an attempt that clearly succeeded... according to F1 owner and serial car collector Jay Leno, it is simply "the Greatest Car of the 20th Century."

Produced between 1992 and 1998, just 106 examples were built. Of that figure a mere 64 were standard road cars, so there's only a remote chance of seeing one in the flesh. Unless you head to the London Classic Car Show at London's ExCeL centre next month, that is. For a special display devoted to the F1 and curated by designer Gordon Murray will form one of the major attractions at the show.

No fewer than five F1s will be shown – two standard road cars, two GTR racers and a 'long tail' F1 GT road car. Last year we paid tribute to Adrian Newey with an amazing display of his world beaters; this year we are putting the spotlight on Gordon Murray and, in particular, the amazing McLaren F1 he fathered," explained Event Director, Bas Bungish. "All those involved in what's clearly going to be a very special homage to the F1 believe it will be by far the best, and most complete, insight ever put together for the public – thus something no car enthusiast will want to miss. As well as Gordon himself, we are working very closely with those at McLaren's own MSO Heritage and acknowledged F1 specialists Lanzante to ensure this fabulous display is as comprehensive and detailed as possible."

To give visitors a unique insight into the world's first 'million dollar motor' – the McLaren cost £634,500 when new – one of the road cars will be displayed with its doors, bonnet and engine cover open, while



one of the racers will have its exterior panels removed to show what goes on under the skin. The showcase will be completed with a number of F1-related artefacts including the race suit worn by JJ Lehto when he won the 1995 Le Mans 24 Hours in an F1. Also on display will be the road car's bespoke luggage, a BMW engine block, one of the TAG Heuer watches given to each owner and engraved with their car's build number and an example of the car's bespoke tool kit, made from gold-plated titanium no less.

Technical drawings, photos and special films produced by McLaren to celebrate the car's 20th anniversary its famous Le Mans 24 Hours victory in 2015 will also be shown.

"When we started work on the F1 we benchmarked all the existing supercars

from Ferrari, Lamborghini, Porsche and so on, as well as aspects of cars as varied as the contemporary Honda NSX and the 1960s Lotus Elan. The idea was to better the performance, vehicle dynamics, handling and ride comfort of all of them at the same as producing a car that could, genuinely, be used every day.

"We achieved it all... except perhaps the steering. The F1 gets very close but doesn't quite better the purity of the Lotus Elan's steering," said Murray.

Partly because each car took three and a half months to build and partly because it is crammed full of exotic materials including gold leaf, titanium, magnesium and Kevlar, McLaren lost money on each car made despite that heady price tag.

Those with the foresight and wherewithal to buy the car when it was new, however, couldn't have made a better investment. Last August a 1998 McLaren F1 LM sold at auction in America by Sotheby's for close to £9 million.

One of the unique features of the London Classic Car Show is The Grand Avenue, a roadway running through the centre of the exhibition hall along which classics of all different shapes and sizes are put through their paces.

It is anticipated that one of the McLarens will take to The Grand Avenue during the show, so visitors will not just be able to gaze at this remarkable British car at rest, but see and hear it in action, too.

Tickets for the London Classic Car Show

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Nav, 6 Speed, FSH £5,499



2006 06 VW GOLF 1.4S 5-door,
Manual, Silver Metallic, 62,000 miles
FSH £3,999



2013 63 CITROEN DS3 Dstyle Plus 1.6,
1 Owner, Bright Yellow Manual,
12,000 miles, FSH £8999



2010 60 LAND ROVER FREELANDER GS
TD4 Manual, New shape, in White, 54,000
miles, 1 Lady Owner, FSH £13,999



2008 08 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI SE Estate,
Red Metallic, 6 Speed Manual, 47,000 miles,
Privacy Glass, Roof Rails, 47,000 miles £10,499



2012 62 FIAT 500 COLOUR
COLLECTION 1.0 3-door, Manual, Light
Brown, 1 Owner, 18,000 miles £6,499



2012 62 MINI COUNTRYMAN COOPER S
2.0 Diesel All 4 5-door, Green, 1 Owner,
FSH, 19,900 MILES £14,499



2012 12 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTi
SE Saloon, Manual, In White,
34,000 miles, FSH £8,499



2010 10 AUDI A4 QUATTRO AVANT
2.0 TDI 4x4 177bhp, Manual, Metallic
Black, 40,000 miles, FSH £13,999



2011 11 NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC
2.0 Dci 4x4 Manual, Metallic Gold,
Sat Nav, Sunroof, 1 Owner, 23,000
miles £13,999

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SPECIALS - SOME CARS REDUCED - HUGE SAVINGS!!

JAGUAR SELECTION		52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000

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Motoring

Arthurs of Oswestry launch all-makes servicing in area

An Oswestry brand dealership has announced an important expansion of their servicing capability - to now include all makes of cars and vans.

The award-winning Vauxhall dealership of Arthurs, Lower Brook Street, Oswestry, is confident their decision will satisfy an increasing need in the area.

Neil Pomford, Arthurs' after-sales manager said: "We continue to receive an increasing number of enquiries from local car owners to service and repair their vehicles - even though they are not Vauxhalls.

"We employ highly skilled service technicians, many of whom are very experienced and live locally. So we genuinely believe that as a result we can offer a great service to non-Vauxhall owners.

"We are happy to fit genuine manufacturer parts to other makes and for the budget-conscious customer we can source non-genuine parts.

"We offer very competitive prices as well as courtesy cars - free of charge. All in all," said Neil, "we can provide a great service at a great price."

As part of the expansion, Arthurs of Oswestry also announce that they have recruited Karen Garston to their team of service advisors.

Neil added: "We are very much looking forward to winning more awards in 2016 and welcoming new customers to the Arthurs family."

Pictured: Neil Pomford says Arthurs expand servicing to include all makes of cars and vans.



Welsh Walls Car Sales

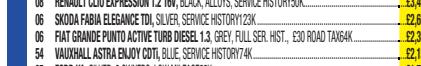
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MOTRING

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TOTAL CASH PRICE	£3,500
APR	7.9%
LOAN PERIOD	60 MONTHS
WEEKLY PAYMENTS	£16
MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£67
TOTAL	£4,000



DEAL OF THE WEEK



VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 GTC TURBO 2012

Buy this car and drive away from only £42.00 per week

DEAL OF THE WEEK



PEUGEOT 208 1.4 ACTIVE 2012

Buy this car and drive away from only £26.00 per week

DEAL OF THE WEEK



VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.7 CDTi Design 2012

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FORD FIESTA 1.4 TITANIUM 2010

Buy this car and drive away from only £26.00 per week



VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 SRI 7 SEATS 2007

Buy this car and drive away from only £15.00 per week



FORD FOCUS

Buy this car and drive away from only £36.00 per week



PORSCHE CAYENNE 3.0 DIESEL 2009

Buy this car and drive away from only £80.00 per week



FORD CMAX 1.6 ZETEC 2012

Buy this car and drive away from only £30.00 per week



PEUGEOT 1.0 107 ALLURE

Buy this car and drive away from only £26.00 per week



FORD FIESTA 1.6 TITANIUM TDCI 2012

Buy this car and drive away from only £30.00 per week



VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI S/S Ecoflex 2012

Buy this car and drive away from only £24.00 per week



TOYOTA AYGO 1.0 MOVE

Buy this car and drive away from only £28.00 per week



PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDI ACTIVE 2012

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NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI ACENTA 2012

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FIAT 500 LOUNGE S/S 2012

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FORD FIESTA 2.0 ST 2007

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VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.6 TDI DSG MATCH 2012

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MERCEDES A45 AMG EDITION 1 4MATIC 2013

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VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 CLUB 2008

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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 VX LINE SRI 2012

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CHEVROLET SPARK 1.2 LTZ 2013

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SUZUKI SWIFT 1.5 GLX 2007

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SKODA FABIA 1.2 HCP 2009

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FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi ZETEC 115 2011

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MAZDA 2 1.3 TS 2012

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SEAT LEON 1.6 TDI ECOMOTIVE 2012

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VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 Life A/C

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TYPICAL EXAMPLE

Total Cash Price: £3200 Monthly Payments: £65
APR: 7.9% Weekly Payments: £15
Term of Loan: 60 Months Total Payable: £3900



VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI SRI 160 16V
6 SPEED DIESEL, ALLOYS, CD PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, I POD CONNECTION, BLUETOOTH, LOADS OF EXTRAS, IMMACULATE CONDITION

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SEAT LEON 1.6 TDI CR S EDITION

5 DOOR, ONLY £20 TAX PER YEAR, ALLOYS, CD PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, UPTO 60 MPG, LOW INSURANCE, IMMACULATE CONDITION

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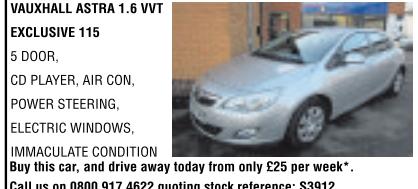


FIAT 500 0.9 TWINAIR LOUNGE S/S

** FREE TAX ** 3 DOOR, UPTO 65 MPG, ALLOYS, CD PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, IMMACULATE CONDITION

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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 VVT EXCLUSIVE 115

5 DOOR, CD PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, IMMACULATE CONDITION

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VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI SXI ECOFLEX 95
ONLY £30 TAX PER YEAR, UPTO 65 MPG, ALLOYS, CD PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, WHITE, LOW INSURANCE, IMMACULATE CONDITION

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VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI CLUB
ONLY £30 TAX/YEAR, UPTO 65 MPG, LOW INSURANCE, CD PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, IMMACULATE CONDITION, ONLY 30,000 MILES

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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6i VVT EXCLUSIVE 16V
5 DOOR, CD PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, IMMACULATE CONDITION

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VOLVO S40 2.0D S

4 DOOR, 6 SPEED DIESEL, ALLOYS, CD, AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, IMMACULATE CONDITION

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NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 VISIA

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MERCEDES BENZ A CLASS 2.0 CDI A180 AVANTGARDE SE

6 SPEED DIESEL, ALLOYS, CD PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, LOADS OF EXTRAS, IMMACULATE CONDITION

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MAZDA 3 1.6 TS

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FORD FIESTA 1.25 STYLE+
ONLY 37,000 MILES, 5 DOOR, CD PLAYER, AIR CON, ALLOYS, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, LOW INSURANCE, EXCELLENT MPG

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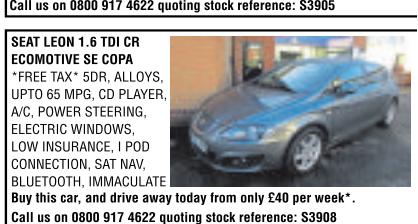
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TOYOTA AYGO 1.0 VVT
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How they stand

Sky Bet League One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Burton Albion	25	17	3	5	34	19	54
Walsall	25	17	3	4	44	25	52
Shrewsbury Town	25	17	3	4	44	25	52
Coventry City	25	17	3	6	53	34	51
Wigan Athletic	25	17	3	9	47	27	51
P'borough Utd.	26	12	5	9	52	38	41
Sheffield Utd	26	11	7	8	44	38	40
Millwall	26	12	4	10	41	36	38
Southend Utd	26	10	7	8	33	34	38
Bradford City	24	10	7	5	25	26	37
Port Vale	24	10	7	6	19	30	32
Doncaster Rovers	26	9	9	9	33	35	34
Rochdale	25	9	7	9	34	30	34
Swindon Town	26	10	4	12	41	44	34
Bury	25	9	7	5	35	40	33
Scunthorpe Utd	26	9	5	12	38	32	25
Morecambe	25	8	9	2	32	42	31
Aldridge & Wat.	27	7	1	6	22	23	24
Chesterfield	27	7	3	5	31	37	36
Blackpool	26	8	4	14	26	34	28
Fleetwood Town	25	7	12	3	33	35	33
Shrewsbury Town	26	7	5	14	31	45	26
Colchester Utd.	27	5	7	15	36	32	22
Oldham Athletic	25	3	12	10	26	39	21
Crewe Alexandra	25	5	15	16	40	20	20

Vanarama National N

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Solihull Moors	25	15	2	4	29	53	53
Nth Ferby Utd	25	14	7	4	55	28	52
Boscombe Utd	25	17	3	4	49	39	48
AFC Fylde	25	17	3	4	49	39	48
Munster Town	26	13	7	8	36	29	46
Harrogate Town	23	4	6	9	36	29	46
Tamworth	24	8	11	5	30	24	35
Stockport Cty.	26	8	9	9	29	33	32
Chorley	23	9	5	9	39	38	32
Coburg City	25	9	5	11	24	29	32
G'borough Trinity	25	9	4	12	27	36	31
Alfreton Town	26	8	6	11	32	32	32
Stalybridge Celtic	23	8	5	10	35	43	29
Bradford PA	21	6	7	7	27	29	27
FC Utd of Macclesfield	27	5	7	12	26	33	25
Worcester City	23	7	4	12	25	35	25
Brackley Town	25	6	7	12	30	38	27
Corby Town	26	6	7	13	33	57	27
Hednesford Town	25	5	10	12	32	43	20
AFC Telford Utd	25	5	15	18	37	37	23

Evo-Stik League Div One South

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Stafford Rgs	27	20	5	2	56	17	65
Coventry Town	23	14	5	4	40	18	51
Shaw Lane A	20	11	3	4	36	24	19
Lincoln Utd	21	15	5	6	34	20	23
Southend Utd	21	15	5	6	34	20	23
Chasetown	23	10	6	7	40	29	28
Basford Utd.	24	10	6	8	33	27	25
Romulus	28	10	5	13	44	35	35
Leek Town	22	10	4	8	34	33	32
Mark Drayton	24	4	1	20	32	13	27
North Stafford	11	2	2	7	16	28	27
Stafford	11	2	0	9	24	46	26

West Midlands Premier

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Redditch	12	10	1	1	42	15	31
Stafford	11	9	1	1	72	20	28
West Bromwich	12	9	0	3	43	18	27
Leek Town	10	8	0	2	43	19	24
Dewsbury	11	4	3	4	28	28	24
Walsall	12	7	1	5	26	25	24
Wolverhampton	12	7	0	6	20	48	24
Walsall	12	7	0	6	19	50	24
Barlaston	11	1	1	6	14	51	24

West Midlands Premier

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Harborne	12	10	1	1	53	19	31
Worcester	11	9	1	1	36	14	29
Stourport	11	9	0	2	35	23	27
Bournville	12	6	1	5	38	19	27
Egdon	12	4	3	4	28	28	25
Walsall	12	4	3	4	28	28	25
Wolverhampton	12	4	3	4	28	28	25
Walsall	12	4	3	4	28	28	25
Barlaston	11	2	2	7	16	28	27

West Midlands 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rudditch	12	9	2	4	47	23	28
Walsall	12	9	1	4	45	23	28
Bromsgrove	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28

West Midlands 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rudditch	12	9	2	4	47	23	28
Walsall	12	9	1	4	45	23	28
Bromsgrove	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28

West Midlands 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rudditch	12	9	2	4	47	23	28
Walsall	12	9	1	4	45	23	28
Bromsgrove	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28

West Midlands 4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rudditch	12	9	2	4	47	23	28
Walsall	12	9	1	4	45	23	28
Bromsgrove	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28

West Midlands 5

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rudditch	12	9	2	4	47	23	28
Walsall	12	9	1	4	45	23	28
Bromsgrove	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28

West Midlands 6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rudditch	12	9	2	4	47	23	28
Walsall	12	9	1	4	45	23	28
Bromsgrove	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28
Walsall	12	8	1	5	46	23	28

West Midlands 7

Four-star display as Reserves show class

OSWESTRY Town Reserves got the year off to the perfect start by seeing off Alblington FCA 4-3 for their second win of the season in the Mercian Regional League division two.

Ishfaque Rashid started the scoring with a stunning 30-yard shot after beating two players, before Harry Dunn quickly doubled the lead after latching on to a defence splitting pass from Tom Kiltvert and lobbing the Alblington keeper from the edge of the box.

Town were now controlling the game and their effort saw them go 3-0 up with a penalty from Martin Phillips.

However, Alblington quickly pulled one back with a long shot that eluded Town keeper Dan Whittle who slipped in the muddy conditions.

But Town were back on the goal trail when top scorer Owen Davies made it 4-1 shortly before half time when chipping the keeper from the byline.

In the second half, Town struggled to get their passing game going on the muddy pitch, and a slip allowed Alblington to grab their second off the game.

With the away side pushing forward, Town kept firm with centre backs Rob Shine and Jord Gerrard keeping firm.

Alblington, however, then scored a third goal 15 minutes from time to make it a nervy end to the game, but Town saw the game out for a welcome three points.

And they could have increased their lead late on after good work from Jack Lawrence and Dunn saw Matt Coulson have a good shot saved, while Owen Davies just missed out with a header.

On Saturday, the reserves look to keep up the good work when they make the long trip to league leaders Claverley.

FC Oswestry Town's first team entertain Shifnal reserves at the Venue Park Hall on Saturday (2pm) as they look to maintain their title challenge in the premier division.

International match comes to Park Hall

INTERNATIONAL football is coming to TNS' Park Hall Stadium later in the year when England take on the Republic of Ireland Schoolboys in this season's Centenary Shield.

The match, to be played on Friday, April 8 with a 7.30 kick off, will follow on from England's first fixture in the competition against Scotland the week before.

"This promises to be an exciting occasion for Shropshire and for Oswestry in particular," said Mark Hignett, ESFA Council Member and SSCFA vice chairman.

"England versus the Republic of Ireland is always a great sporting occasion and this promises to be no different with the two countries having won the shield between them in the last two seasons."

"We are absolutely delighted to be working with The New Saints FC to stage this prestigious international fixture at their Park Hall home."

"I am sure that football supporters from Shropshire and the surrounding areas will make this a fantastic evening of international football and that they will get behind our boys as they attempt to reclaim the Centenary Shield back from our visitors."

Entry to the match costs £3 for adults and £1 for concessions and under-12s.

Tickets are available from Lisa Sanderson at SSCFA by calling 01743-235442 or emailing her on lisa@sscf.co.uk.

Shock defeat as TNS fail to mind the Gap

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

LEADERS The New Saints lost their unbeaten record in the Dafabet Welsh Premier after suffering a 2-0 reverse against revitalised Gap Connah's Quay at the Deeside Stadium.

The high flying Saints had been undefeated in their previous 21 league outings - and 25 games in all competitions - to put them firmly on course for a repeat of last season's famous treble.

But they met their match in the form of a tenacious Connah's Quay outfit who notched only their third win at home against the defending champions in over 20 years.

Needing a victory to guarantee a place in the league's top six for the second half of the season, the Nomads made a lively start as they took the game to the league leaders.

And their early efforts were rewarded when taking the lead after just four minutes as Callum Morris converted a penalty awarded for handball when sending keeper Paul Harrison the wrong way from the spot.

The hosts continued to pose problems, and went close to a second when Shaun Miller somehow denied his team-mates when inadvertently blocking the ball on the goalline with the Nomads looking destined to score.

But the Saints, struggling to get a foothold in the game, found themselves two goals down midway through the half when Les Davies latched on to a Wes Baynes corner to head firmly past Harrison to put the hosts in charge.

The visitors almost pulled one back when full-back Simon Spender's deep cross bounced off the bar before being cleared with Scott Quigley ready to pounce.

Hopes of a TNS comeback in the second half, however, failed to materialise as the Nomads gave the high fliers little room to manoeuvre.

Curling shot

And the home side's efforts almost brought a third goal with Wes Baynes unfortunate to see his curling shot fly just inches wide of the post.

Greg Draper and Danny Gossett were brought on in search of a way back into the game, but Craig Harrison's side were unable to break down a resolute Nomads defence.

But it was not to be for the defending champions whose advantage at the top has been trimmed to six points after second placed Bala Town won 3-0 against MBi Llandudno.

Stung by the defeat, the Saints will aim to bounce back by lifting their first silverware of the season when they tackle giantkillers Denbigh Town in Saturday's final of the Word Cup at Llandudno (5.15).

Meanwhile, Newtown sealed their place in the top six of the Welsh Premier after winning 2-1 at faltering Aberystwyth Town.

Early goals from Neil Mitchell (3) and Sean Evans (11) put the Robins on course for a vital win as they bounced back in style from the previous week's 3-0 loss at Bangor City.

Despite a reply from former Welshpool mid-fielder Chris Venables 10 minutes into the second half, there was no way back for Aber who finished with nine men following late dismissals of Luke Sherbon and goalscorer Venables.

The Robins made the perfect start after three minutes when Matty Owen released Mitchell who turned his marker before slotting under Mike Lewis. Sean Evans then bundled a second after his initial header had been saved but Aber gave themselves a lifeline after the break when Venables swept home a reply.

But the home side's chances of a comeback faded in the 90th minute mark when Sherbon was sent off for his second yellow card and 30 seconds later Venables was dismissed for an off-the-ball incident.

LLANFAIR United remain deep in the basement mire in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance after a thakoy second half display saw them crash 6-1 at Porthmadog.

A hat-trick from Julian Williams sent Llanfair packing as Port avenged a defeat earlier in the season by scoring five times in the second period the Treath.

It was an even first half, with the hosts going ahead through Cai Jones in the 17th minute, but Llanfair were deservedly level when James Davies found the net with a fine strike eight minutes before the interval.

But the visitors were blown away in the second period as they paid the price for several lapses as Gruff Williams restored the Port lead seven minutes after the break.

Julian Williams then took centre stage with a quickfire hat-trick on 63, 69 and 79 minutes before Corey Jones sealed the rout in the last minute.

Red-hot Blowers hits hat-trick



Rebecca Pritchard – played her part in three goals for TNS Ladies reserves. Picture: Sue Wilson.

GRACE Blowers fired a hat-trick as TNS Ladies cruised into the quarter-finals of the Staffordshire League Cup with a 5-0 passage against Burton Albion Ladies Development at Park Hall.

The chances flowed as Charlotte Canlett also scored twice in a fine team display as the Saints set up a clash with Leek CSOB in the last eight.

The hosts started with purpose, keeping the ball well in the opening minutes and were ahead on nine minutes when Nisa Mendes played into Canlett who fired over the keeper.

That lead was then doubled 11 minutes later when Rebecca Pritchard cut into the box, beat two players before cutting the ball back to Canlett whose shot was turned by the keeper onto the post where Blowers was on hand to tap into the empty net.

Three minutes later a third goal arrived when keeper Ffion Davies kicked up field, the ball

finding Pritchard who beat a player and drilled to Blowers at the near post to fire home from close range.

The Saints could have added to the lead when Lauren James set up Canlett whose shot hit the Burton defender but was kept out by a fine reflex save by the goalkeeper.

The Shropshire side maintained the tempo in the second half and on 56 minutes added a fourth goal when a throw by James saw Pritchard pass to Canlett whose shot from the edge of the box flew into the top corner of the net.

Canlett nearly added another minutes later when rattling the bar after being set up by Blowers following a corner from the right.

But the Saints completed the scoring when a cross by Canlett was met by the on rushing Blowers who flicked the ball past the keeper and into the net.

Blowers then nearly added her

fourth of the game when played in by Pritchard but her shot was saved well by the advancing Burton goalkeeper.

After the game Head of Girls and Women's Football Peter Wilson commented: "For me that is probably the best all round performance of a team at this club I have witnessed."

"We kept the ball for the majority of the game, created plenty of chances and only had a couple of shots against us."

"All the girls looked to play football and we were untouchable at times. The girls now look forward to a quarter final against Leek CSOB and also a Shropshire Cup game against Shrewsbury Town Ladies."

The Saints Ladies reserves travel to Shrewsbury Town Ladies on Sunday, January 31 in the Shropshire Women's Cup, while the first team were given the win against Newport Ladies in their quarter-final.

fered a call-off due to a waterlogged pitch.

Despite having no league action, the Gulls managed to arrange a friendly at TNS' Park Stadium against Spar League side Berriew whose Central Wales Cup tie at Dyffryn Banw was also postponed due to an unfit pitch.

The game saw Aaron Edwards score five times in a 11-1 victory, with the chance for a runout more than the result.

LLANFAIR RESERVES suffered the weather blues as their Emrys Morgan Cup clash at home to Penparcaw was called off due to a waterlogged pitch.

Llanfyllin Town kept their flag flying in the Emrys Morgan Cup with a 2-0 passage at Llanfair in the third round, while Meifod are also through to the next round after a 3-2 win against St Dogmaels.

Saturday's games

Huws Gray Cymru Alliance (2.30): Bala Town v Conwy Borough, Caerphilly Town v Mold, Howell Town v Caersws, Mold Alex v Llanfair United, Porthmadog v Gresford Athletic, Prestatyn Town v Holyhead Hotspur, Rhayader Town v Flint Town United.

Monty out of cup after missing a penalty

MONTGOMERY'S interest in the Central Wales Cup came to an end after going down 3-1 at Aberystwyth University in their rearranged third round tie.

The students progressed courtesy of a Tom Penberthy opener and a brace from Rian Devlin, while Monty replied with a penalty and also missed a second spot kick.

Monty were always up against it after shipping in three goals inside the first half hour, Penberthy opening the scoring from a poor clearance before Devlin glanced in a Matthew Hunton corner.

Devlin then made it three after cutting in and beating a couple of defenders for a fine solo effort, but Monty came back into the tie after the break.

The visitors reduced the arrears with a penalty awarded for handball, but missed a second spot kick that would have made for a closer finish.

In the fourth round, the university will now host Hay St Mary's who embarked on an 8-0 romp at struggling Penybont, with Tom James grabbing a hat-trick.

High riding Kerry overcame Llanilar 4-0 in a tie switched to the 4G on Newtown's Latham Park, and will visit either Cardigan Town or Forden United in the fourth round.

There was more frustration for several sides due to the weather, with Waterloo Rovers and Llansantffraid Village again left kicking their heels with their third round tie postponed.

Dyffryn Banw and Spar division two rivals Berriew must also try again after the poor weather.

Revised Central Wales Cup draw: Aberystwyth Uni, Hay St Mary's, Cardigan Town or Forden United v Kern, Dyffryn Banw or Berriew v Llanidloes Town, Guisfield v Llandrindod Wells or Penrhyncoch, Machynlleth v Caersws or Llanrhedyn, New Quay or Abermule v Llanfair Utd or Bala Street, Rhyd-y-Vaen or Aberaeron v Rhayader, Town v Builth Wells, Waterloo Rovers or Llansantffraid Village v Cenarth.

Ties to be played on Saturday, February 6 2016.

Hockey men must unlock tight defence

OSWESTRY face a tough test when they tackle the meanest defence in the West Midlands Hockey League division one in Saturday's trip to high-flying Redditch.

The Worcestershire side are setting the pace, having conceded just 15 times from their 12 games this term, with 10 wins, one defeat and a draw.

The Oswestry side's record is more modest, currently fifth in the table with six wins and four defeats from their 11 outings. They had no game last weekend when their trip to Pershore was postponed as a number of their players were unable to travel due to snow.

Oswestry Ladies, looking to maintain their winning ways in the Cheshire Women's Hockey League division two, were frustrated by the weather as their trip to Macclesfield Ladies II was postponed due to a frozen pitch.

Lying fifth, they put their revival to the test at home to joint leaders Alderley Edge on Saturday (2pm).

Morda stay on sidelines

MORDA United's hopes of their first competitive action since November were again dashed when their home encounter against Guisfield Reserves succumbed to the weather.

More rain during the week saw the already sodden Weston Road pitch declared unfit following an inspection on Friday morning.

However, the club were not alone, with all first and second division games in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League called off.

Manager Colin Turner is keeping his squad in trim with weekly practice sessions on the all-weather pitch at the Venue at Park Hall in readiness for an improvement in the weather.

Shanry signs new contract at Worcs

FORMER Shropshire bowler Jack Shanry, who played a couple of games for Oswestry in the Birmingham and District League last season, has become the ninth Worcestershire player since last August to sign a new contract.

Shanry gets a new three-year deal after another successful season for the Pears in 2015 in which he topped 50 County Championship wickets for the second year running.

The 27-year-old had two years left of his contract, but has now committed to the county until the end of the 2018 campaign.

Oswestry wicketkeeper-batsman Joe Clarke also signed a new contract during the summer, along with Ed Barnard, Joe Leach, Tom Fell, Brett D' Oliveira and Charlie Morris, Ross Whiteley and Tom Kohler-Cammore.

Shanry said: "It was very pleasing to see the other contract extensions of players at the club for the good of this club's future."

"It was great to see them and all the others sign and to now join them and have three more years at Worcestershire is very pleasing."

"Nine of us have signed up since August and it shows the level of morale at the club, even though we had a difficult year in Championship cricket."

"People enjoy playing for Worcestershire and we've got a group of players here that are only going to improve."

Shanry has taken 232 first class, 82 List A and 86 T20 wickets during his career.

His century and 10 wickets in the promotion-clinching win over Surrey in 2014 has gone down in Worcestershire folklore.

Eagles are grounded by the weather

IT'S as you were at the top of the Cheshire South after title chasing Oswestry's home clash with struggling Knutsford was postponed.

The Eagles were looking to step up the pressure on the leaders against their visitors who have yet to win this season.

But heavy overnight frost left the Granville Park pitch unplayable with the surface frozen in places.

Oswestry remain in third spot, five points adrift of leaders Manchester Medics with a game in hand, while they host the pacemakers at the end of the month in a possible title decider. The Medics are the only side to have defeated the Eagles in the league this season.

Second are Dukinfield, but they have played two more games than Os who visit lowly Linley on Saturday as they chase a bonus point win.

Only one game survived in the league, with Isle of Man side Vagabonds taking advantage to rack up a 61-10 victory over Eagle to lift themselves up to fifth spot.

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

IWAN Matthews fired a late winner, his second goal of the game, as Llanrhedr kept the pressure on the Spar Mid Wales League division one leaders with a topsy-turvy 4-3 victory at lowly Tywyn Bryn-crug.

Having not played since mid December following the wet weather, Llan found themselves trailing from the penalty spot in the 10th minute following a foul by keeper Connor Lee.

But they hit back, Gary Meredith heading against the bar, before levelling at the break through man-of-the-match Tom Evans' well taken lob on 35 minutes.

Two strikes after the interval seemingly put the visitors in charge, with Matthews making it 2-1 with a penalty on the hour after Chris Aitken had been brought down in the box, and Meredith then headed a third six minutes later from a cross by substitute Wayne Austin.

Tywyn, however, roared back with a deflected goal reducing the arrears before a defensive mix-up from a cross levelled the scores.

But Llan showed their worth, with Matthews having a header cleared off the line before the striker slotted the winner seven minutes from time from a Wayne Griffiths cross.

Victory was a timely boost before Saturday's big trip to Flintshire side Greenfield in the last 16 of the FAW Trophy.

It lifted Llanrhedr up to second spot on goal difference, two points behind leaders Penrhyn-coch who won 4-3 in a thriller against WELSH-POOL at Maesdyre.

Llan had found themselves trailing 2-0 at the break to goals from Nathan Warren and Aiden Nyhus, but staged a rousing second half fight-back to level courtesy of a brace from the impressive Will Thomas, his second a terrific strike from 25 yards.

Penrhyn regained the lead when Warren lobbed his second of the game only for Rob Cookson to head the home side level again.

But the league leaders were not to be denied when, two minutes from time, new signing Dean Evans marked his appearance as substitute with a stunning volley into the top corner to seal the points.

Despite the defeat, Welshpool remain fourth, one point adrift of the third placed teams.

Carno slipped into third position after being held 1-1 at Bow Street while fifth placed Knighton Town, looking to keep up the pressure on the leaders, were frustrated as their trip to Machynlleth was postponed.

Llanidloes Town suffered a 3-0 home loss to 10-man Llandrindod Wells as they made a disappointing return to action, slipping down one place to 10th on goal difference.

FOUR CROSSES, looking to ease their basement concerns in division two, were left kicking their heels as their home fixture with Builth Wells succumbed to the weather.

The rest of the division went ahead, with Borth United the biggest winners – 4-0 at Bettws, while Newbridge secured a 2-0 verdict at Radnor Valley and Presteigne won 3-2 at fellow strugglers Bont to ease their basement worries.

Runners take to Park for tough challenge



The Oswestry Olympians men's team at the Shropshire Cross Country meet at Attingham Park

DESPITE arduous conditions, Oswestry Olympians runners were up for the challenge as they turned out in force for the Shropshire Cross Country Championships at Attingham Park.

Both the seniors and juniors made light of the heavy course to return with some excellent individual and team performances on another encouraging day for the club.

Paul Jones was first home in the male veterans class, clocking 40.07, while he also finished a creditable fourth in the race overall. His performance helped the Olympian men finish as first vets team, ahead of Telford AC and Newport and District, and the ladies team also ran well to finish second in the Vets category.

For the juniors, Liam Rawlings ran a brave second in the under-13 boys and there were creditable top 10 finishes for Cameron Van Onselen, Kate Pugh, Tom Wild in their respective races.

In the senior men's, several runners from the Oswestry club acquitted themselves well with Peter Butler coming sev-

enth overall in 41.20, while Tim Gears was 29th in 44.08, Simon Barkley 31st in 44.16 and Tim Tansley clocked 45.19 to cross the line in 41st position. Leading the way for the Olympians in the senior women was Jacqui Gears, who clocked 29.14 to finish 12th and Alison Tickner was 22nd in 30.41.

Cameron Van Onselen finished sixth in the under-17 boys in 24.26, while Tom Wilde was eighth in the under-15 boys when timing 17.35, with Matthew Collins (20.21) in 25th place. Liam Rawlings was the best performer for the club in the under-13 boys, when producing a stirring effort to finish runner-up with a time of 12.26.

Kate Pugh crossed in fifth spot in the under-15 girls with a time of 14.15, with Abigail Walmsley (14th in 15.16) and Ellie Dixon (25th in 19.07) other finishers. In the under-13 girls, Bethan Jones was 12th with a time of 8.39 and Anna Rothero 28th with a time of 9.20.

ATHLETICS by John Bridgwater

Golf dream so nearly goes down the plug

SHROPSHIRE golfer Ashley Chesters hopes to be back on the fairways soon – after an injury first caused by being stuck in the loo!

Chesters has been unable to play for the last two-and-a-half weeks due to a damaged tendon in his elbow. But doctors have now given him the go-ahead to return to the course.

"I'm not sure how it happened, probably in the gym," said Chesters, who plays out of Hawkstone Park. "I did it a couple of years ago when I got locked in the bathroom. There was nobody at home and I couldn't get hold of anyone, so I had to smash the door down."

"I was in there for two hours! I did some damage to my elbow then and I think it's a recurrence of that."

The 26-year-old, who left the amateur golf ranks after the Walker Cup last year, admits his desire to play may have made the problem worse.

He had hoped for an invite to the BMW SA Open in Gauteng last week and continued to practise after picking up the injury.

"When I did it a couple of years ago I got over it quickly because I stopped playing straight away," he added. "Because I thought there was a chance of going to South Africa I carried on practising and it got a bit worse."

"I have been to see the physio and she said I can try to hit some balls this weekend and see how it goes."

Chesters admits the injury could have come at a worse time, with the first Challenge Tour event not until the end of March as he looks to win a full European Tour card.

Hat-trick of wins for ace Harrier Tim

MALDWYN Harrier Tim Davies reeled off his third straight win as the club's seniors continue to impress in the Herefordshire League Cross-Country at Monkhall Farm.

As the runners look to chase individual and team honours in the winter series, Davies led the way with a masterful display of running to storm to victory by more than two minutes in the toughest conditions of the winter.

Meanwhile, Nicola Davies registered her second victory of the series to win the women's race at the Hereford venue.

Maldwyn's men were again victorious in the team event while the Harriers' women recorded their best ever result, finishing third.

The results mean that Maldwyn's men lead the team championship by a single point from Wye Valley, while the women are in fifth in their event.

The deciding race of the Herefordshire League takes place at Nash Woods, Presteigne, on February 7.

Llan's Youth team edged out of Cup

LLANFAIR United's youngsters went out of the Central Wales Cup with a 2-1 exit against Newtown.

A disappointing first half performance saw Newtown take the lead through an Aaron James penalty after a foul by Chris Humphreys.

The second half was a much improved affair with Llanfair equalising through Toby Evans to give themselves realistic hope of progressing.

United continued to have chances and rattled the woodwork several times before Newtown regained the lead on 75 minutes through a long range strike by Zack Tanner.

Llanfair pushed men forward in the closing stages with Ben Jones going close and Humphreys hitting the post.

COBRA women slip in the mud



Siony Rudd (centre) tussles for possession as COBRA look to find a way through in their encounter at home to Abergele, with Cat Davies (behind) in support. The Meifod side managed to beat the cold weather to stage the friendly, but found their rivals too hot to handle as they slipped to a 31-0 defeat.

COBRA'S hopes of maintaining their revival in the Swalec Welsh League division one (north) were dashed by the weather as their home clash with Abergele was postponed due to a frozen pitch.

The pitch was frozen in parts and, with the temperatures remaining cold throughout the day, there was little chance of it thawing out, so the club had to reluctantly call the game off at 11.45am.

COBRA now look to resume their battle for survival when they head to third placed Caernarfon on Saturday. The North Wales hosts managed some action

much to the frustration of the hosts who remain third from bottom in the league.

The pitch was frozen in parts and, with the temperatures remaining cold throughout the day, there was little chance of it thawing out, so the club had to reluctantly call the game off at 11.45am.

COBRA now look to resume their battle for survival when they head to third placed Caernarfon on Saturday. The North Wales hosts managed some action

last weekend when losing 30-15 to Pwllheli in the North Wales Senior Cup.

Although it has been a tough winter with the wet and cold weather, the Llanfair side have only lost a couple of games. The league season is due to end on Saturday April, 9, but there is scope to extend that deadline.

WELSHPOOL's home clash with promotion-chasing Llangollen in the Swalec League division three (north) was also postponed due to a frozen pitch at Maesdyre.

Sport

OSWESTRY SPORTS DESK 01743 283301

Llanrhaeadr face tester in FAW Trophy

IT'S a big day for Llanrhaeadr who look to keep their flag flying in the FAW Trophy when they make the fifth round trip to Flintshire side Greenfield on Saturday (1.30pm).

With a place in the quarter-finals at stake, Llanr know they can afford no half measures against their hosts who are flying high at the top of the Lock Stock Welsh Alliance division two.

Greenfield have lost just once this season in 14 league games, with 12 wins and one draw as they chase promotion to the first division.

Like most clubs, Llanrhaeadr have been frustrated by the wet weather, but managed to get some much needed action with a 4-3 victory at Tywyn Bryncrug last weekend to keep the pressure on the Spar Mid Wales League division one leaders.

Iwan Matthews netted twice in his side's welcome return to action following the wet weather, Tom Evans and Gary Meredith also on target.

Victory lifted the villagers up to second spot on goal difference, two points behind leaders Penrhyncoch who won 4-3 in a thriller at fourth placed Welshpool.

On Saturday, Welshpool will look to bounce back in their tough Spar League division one trip to in-form Knighton Town who lie just one place below in fifth position.

Elsewhere, Waterloo Rovers and Llansantffraid Village will be hoping it's third time lucky on Saturday when they bid to stage their delayed Central Wales Cup at Maesydre following two postponements. The winners will entertain Carno in the fourth round.

Dyffryn Banw and Berriew will also try again in their weather-hit third round tie, with Llanidloes Town waiting to visit in the next round.

Clarke falls cheaply but the Lions roar

BATSMAN Joe Clarke missed out as England Lions sealed a five-wicket victory in their opening 50 overs clash with Pakistan A in Dubai.

In the first of five unofficial one day internationals in the tour of United Arab Emirates, England dismissed their rivals from 192 in 47 overs.

Worcestershire and Oswestry bat Clarke, whose participation in the T20 series before Christmas was limited by injury to one game, took two catches while Surrey's Tom Curran claimed three wickets.

The Lions started well in the run chase but wickets started to fall, including that of Trefonen-based Clarke. The 19-year-old was caught behind for six, having made a run-a-ball 24 in an earlier warm-up match.

The other games were scheduled for January 21, 25, 28 and 30.

Clarke will be hoping for more success in 2016 after making his mark last year. He scored his maiden first class century for Worcestershire, making an unbeaten 104 against Sussex.

He finished with 535 Championship runs from 16 innings at an average of over 35 and also hit 131 not out against Gloucestershire in the One Day Cup.

Football
Catch up on the
local games – P42

Rugby
COBRA ladies in
the picture – P43



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TNS AIM FOR FINAL GLORY

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

THE New Saints will chase the perfect pick-me-up by lifting their first silverware of the season in Saturday's final of the Word Cup against Denbigh Town at Llandudno (5.15pm).

After suffering their first loss of the campaign last week, the Saints have the chance of a timely tonic as they target a trophy they have already won six times.

As holders, they go into the final as overwhelming favourites against their lower league opponents who have punched above their weight in overcoming three Welsh Premier sides en route to the final.

Denbigh currently lie fourth in the Cymru Alliance, but their recent form has been modest, while their final preparations have been hampered by a string of postponements due to the weather.

But TNS will be taking nothing for granted, particularly after failing to their first loss of the campaign when downed 2-0 at Gap Connah's Quay who prevailed in heavy conditions with an early penalty from Callum Morris awarded for handball followed by a header from Les Davies.

And club captain Paul Harrison feels this weekend is an ideal game to look forward to after the leaders lost their proud unbeaten record.

"Everyone's disappointed at suffering our first defeat, conditions were tough which we're not used to, and we never really got going," admitted the experienced goalkeeper.

"It was a difficult pitch to play on which did not suit us as we like to play the ball on the floor. We had to resort to long balls which is not our game, and they were more set up for that than us."

Treble

"But we've got to move on and we've now got a big cup final on Saturday where we will look to put it right."

Despite the defeat in the last game of the first phase of the season, the Saints remain six points clear at the top of the Dafabet Welsh Premier, and still with a realistic hope of matching last season's famous treble triumph.

The Saints are the current Word Cup holders following their convincing 3-0 victory against Bala Town in last season's final at Newtown.

As they look to repeat that success on Saturday, they will again be playing on a 3G pitch at Llandudno's Maesdu Park ground, with the final to be screened live on S4C with a 5.15pm kick-off.

Saturday's final will be attended by Wales national team manager Chris Coleman who is looking forward to the occasion.

Denbigh deserve great credit for reaching the final – having beaten three Welsh Premier League teams on the way – and I'm sure that they'll do their best to claim a fourth WPL scalp," he said.

"It's obviously going to be a difficult task but it should be a very enjoyable day."

Meanwhile, TNS boss Craig Harrison is still looking to bring in new signings to bolster his squad during the January transfer window.

St Martins stun the leaders



St Martins goalscorer Shaun Melusi (right) tries to get past Jason Wellings on the 3G pitch

ST MARTINS produced their performance of the season to shock runaway leaders AFC Ludlow 2-0 to move up to fourth in the West Midlands League Division One.

Ludlow had gone into the encounter in fine fettle, unbeaten at home this season, while scoring no fewer than 73 goals in their previous 21 league games.

But their prolific marksmen were well shackled by the Saints, who defended resolutely while looking dangerous going forward to stun the league leaders at their Broomfield Road ground.

They had chances to have been ahead at the break, but their efforts went unrewarded as the first half ended goalless.

As in the first half, Ludlow started the second period well, but St Martins again took a grip as the half wore on.

Jake Northwood was in solid form in goal while the defence, well marshalled by Steve Pugh, held firm to ensure a rare clean sheet for the visitors this season.

The Saints made the breakthrough on 75 minutes when Shaun Melusi found Jamie Hands and he netted a fine 20-yard strike.

Ludlow pushed for a leveller, with central defender Dale Hodge being thrust into attack along with prolific brother Aaron Hodge.

But they could find no way through, with the Saints sealing the victory in the last minute when Melusi latched onto a poor clearance before breaking through and beating keeper Ian Havard.

It capped a terrific display from the visitors with every player giving 100 percent, but the test will now be to repeat that kind of performance on a regular basis.

Guils face tough trip to leaders

GUILSFIELD put their solid form to the test when they head to high-flying Caernarfon Town in the Cymru Alliance on Saturday.

Like the rest of the league, the villagers have been disrupted by the weather, but are looking increasingly consistent in the games they have played.

But the trip to the North Wales coast will be a tough examination for Dan Barton's men who will need to be at their best against a side tipped by many to win the league.

"Caernarfon are good team, they will be there or thereabouts for the title, so it's going to be a tough game for us," said Barton. "They dominated when they won 4-0 down here earlier in the season, so it's a chance to put it right."

Barton will be returning to one of his former haunts, having made 50 Welsh Premier appearances for Caernarfon in the early 2000s.

After another weekend hampered by the weather, it's as you were in the leading places in the Cymru Alliance with the Guils remaining in seventh spot. They are seven points adrift of joint leaders Caernarfon and three points off third place.

Meanwhile, Barton continues his quest to bring in a couple of new players (a defender and a forward) to strengthen the squad for what is certain to prove a busy end of season as the fixtures pile up following a string of postponements.

After their home clash against Mold Alex was postponed last weekend, the Guils managed to arrange a friendly against Spar League division two side Berriew at TNS' Park Hall Stadium.

It proved a good work-out, with Aaron Edwards score five times in an 11-1 victory.

Crunch games are looming for Llan

LLANFAIR United boss Rhys Stephens says his side need to show their mettle in the next few weeks as the battle for survival hots up in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance.

Stung by a 6-1 defeat away to Porthmadog last weekend, United remain third from bottom, and with plenty of work to do if they are to climb out of the basement places.

They now visit fellow strugglers Mold Alex on Saturday, before taking on another of their basement rivals Rhayader Town at the Mount the weekend after.

"These are two massive games for us, we've got to bounce back from last week and show some character," said Stephens.

"The disappointing thing about the Porthmadog defeat was that we were in the game at half time, we were 1-1.

"We were decent in the first half, but awful in the second, and we have to be better than that. We were right in the game but a couple of individual errors for their second and third goals killed us."

Since winning 1-0 at Caersws back in November, Llanfair have suffered four straight defeats as well as four postponements. They lost 7-0 at Mold Alex at home earlier in the season, but their opponents have since gone off the boil.

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